



**School District of Waukesha**  
**Changes for Reporting Student Progress**  
**November, 2007**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We wanted to share a few points of information regarding WebGrader and the new Elementary Report Cards for the School District of Waukesha.

**WebGrader:** This year all School District of Waukesha teachers in grades four - six are using WebGrader to report student progress. WebGrader is an electronic progress reporting system which will allow parents access to electronically view their child's progress. Those of you with older children in the district may be familiar with it as it is the same system used at our middle and high schools.

Currently, our elementary schools are at different points in the implementation of WebGrader. Some schools have been using it for several years, and others are in the process of implementing it. Schools newly using WebGrader have selected different times of the year to go "on line" reporting student progress. All grade levels at all elementary schools in the district will use WebGrader beginning in the fall of 2008.

**New Report Cards:** A district report card committee, which includes interested teachers, department chairs, and administrators, has been meeting over the past two years to

develop a new report card that is skills and standards based. The committee also made some changes in the descriptors and the grading scale. The new report card format and descriptor and grading scale have been placed on WebGrader.

- **Changes made in the "descriptors"** (for primary grades K-3)

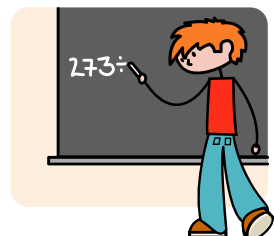
Numbers will be used indicating the following:

- 4 - Advanced - Independently demonstrates sophisticated application in new contexts.
- 3 - Proficient - Skills are consistently demonstrated
- 2 - Basic - Skills are inconsistently demonstrated
- 1 - Minimal - Skills are limited and student requires significant teacher help.

If left blank, - Skill has not been assessed at this time

- **More information on the rating scale of 4,3,2,and 1.**

**"Student's progress is represented by proficiency levels. What exactly do those levels mean?"**



- **4-Advanced: Independently demonstrates sophisticated application in new contexts**

Earning a "4" means the students has an advanced understanding and uses their knowledge and skills to develop new understandings and solutions. This student has to show initiative, challenge themselves and demonstrate this advanced knowledge at school. Since our standards are high, a 4 is not easy to achieve and indicates a high ability in an academic area or strand.

- **3-Proficient: Skills are consistently demonstrated**

Earning a "3" means the student has a proficient understanding and meets district expectations. We want all of our students to reach a level 3. Students who reach a level 3 are able to demonstrate their understanding independently and consistently. A student receiving a 3 is right on track with our high academic expectations. He or she is exactly where we, as a district, are hoping a student in that grade would be. A 3 is something to be celebrated!

- **2-Basics: Skills are inconsistently demonstrated**

Earning a "2" means the student has a basic understanding and partially meets district expectations. A student receiving

a 2 inconsistently demonstrates their understanding and requires additional assistance. A 2 indicates that the child understands basic concepts or skills, but has yet to reach the proficient level. The child needs additional time and help related to that academic area or strand to stay on track with district expectations.

- **1-Minimal: Skills are limited and requires significant teacher help**

Earning a "1" means the student has a minimal understanding of concepts and skills and therefore does not meet district expectations. Even with assistance, the child cannot use or master those skills. The student has significant academic delays according to our district standards and requires significant/intensive assistance and differentiation from the teacher to get on track with district expectations.

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- **Changes made in the grading scale.**

It was felt that consistency and what is developmentally appropriate for students in the elementary levels is vital. Therefore, the committee

agreed to use the following scale in grade 4-6:

- 90-100 - A [A+ for 99/100 and A- for 90/91
- 80-89 - B [B+ for 88/89 and B- for 80/81
- 70-79 - C [C+ for 78/79 and C- for 71/70
- 60-69 - D [D+ for 68/69 and D- for 60/61
- 0-59 - F and below could be an Incomplete or a Failing grade



*The best way to know how a child is progressing is to monitor progress more often than at the traditional nine week intervals, which is when a report card is completed and sent home. When Web Grader is used, it will allow parents to closely monitor their child's progress at any point, seeing how assignments are being rated/scored, and what if any assignments are missing.*

**Change in Kindergarten Reporting:**

*We will be completing a report card for kindergarten students at the end of the second, third, and fourth quarter.*

**We ask you to look at the parent brochure which will be sent home, also.**

*It has recently been written by our district staff. If you have questions, please call your child's teacher or principal. Thank you in advance for support of these changes. We continually strive to find better means to communicate with you about the learning progress of your child(ren).*

*From the School District of Waukesha Report Card Committee*

