

## A Message From the Superintendent

We are pleased to announce the Bryant School District is making a positive change in the way we report student progress to parents. In the 2014-2015 school year, we will report information about kindergarten through third grade students using a standards based report card followed by fourth grade in 2015-2016, and fifth grade in 2016-2017. This report card is an exciting step for our district as we work towards making sure all students are successful at meeting grade-level standards. We are using standards based report cards because this method clarifies what students know and are able to do for each reporting period. With this specific information, as opposed to the traditional letter grade, parents and teachers are better able to practice certain skills in order to help their children succeed.

Student performance will be reported using new scoring indicators: 3, 2, 1 and E. These markings are in no way similar to the traditional A-F grading scale. A score of 3 indicates that a student demonstrates the standard independently and meets grade level expectation. This is the score your child is working to achieve. A score of 2 indicates that a student demonstrates grade level expectations with support and is progressing toward grade level expectations but cannot perform this standard independently. A score of 1 indicates that grade level expectations are not demonstrated at the time of reporting and should be considered a concern. A score of E indicates that a student exceeds grade level expectations demonstrating in-depth inferences and applications beyond what is required for that grade level. In fact, the student must show mastery of that standard consistently at the next grade level. Every standard does not continue to the next grade level; therefore, the student won't have the opportunity to earn an E on every standard. Please keep in mind that early in the year, 2's may be more common than 3's because students are working to achieve mastery by the end of the year for the standards.

Standards based reports will prove to be helpful, not only for parents, but teachers as well. They will assist in maintaining consistency of expectations from teacher to teacher. Clarifying the standards with this reporting method helps teachers and students maintain focus on the critical areas students must learn from the beginning of the school year, giving students the opportunity to keep trying until they master the standard. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, you will know exactly what your child has mastered and where he still needs to grow in order to be best prepared for the next grade level.

This website contains helpful information such as the K, 1, 2, & 3 SBRC template so you can reflect upon the standards your child is learning this year, the reading chart which identifies reading levels by quarter, and sample rubrics. Standards are tested multiple times before a teacher enters a marking to ensure that the student has truly mastered the standard.

I hope you find this website helpful in reading your child's report card; however, should you need additional information, please contact your child's teacher or principal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tom Kimbrell  
Superintendent of Bryant Public Schools