

### **Will my child receive numerical or letter grades?**

In the normal course of collecting evidence related to student progress, teachers will use a variety of methods to provide feedback to students. The letter grades in fourth and fifth grade are summative and represent the learning after the content and/or skill has been taught. Letter grades are only placed on the fourth and fifth grade report cards for mathematics, science and social studies.

### **Are students with disabilities (SWD) held to “grade-level” standards on the Report card?**

Yes. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) federal laws require each state, school district, and school to hold ALL students to grade-level standards. IDEA also dictates that SWD must be taught content as specified in grade-level curriculum. Modifications are made in the delivery of the content, not in the content itself.

## **West Islip Mission Statement**

The West Islip Community is committed to excellence in education through the establishment of an academic, vocational and social environment in which all children can learn and succeed. Our students will be provided the opportunity to develop their self esteem and a respect for others while acquiring the knowledge, skills and attitudes to become responsible citizens in a rapidly changing world. Our goal is to have students think in global terms and develop cultural sensitivity and international orientation. We seek to instill in our students the ability to share their commonalities, celebrate their differences, and appreciate that learning is a lifelong process.

*Bernadette M. Burns  
Superintendent of Schools*

*Anne M. Rullan, Ed. D.  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction*

*Rhonda Pratt, Paul J. Bellew  
Jack Maniscalco, Oquenock  
Dawn Morrison, Manetuck  
John Mullins, Bayview  
Elementary School Principals*

*Eric Albinder  
Director of Art and Music*

*Karen Appollo  
Director of English Language Arts, Reading, &  
Library Media Centers*

*Jeanne Dowling  
Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services*

*Jim Gilmartin  
Director of Social Studies/IB Coordinator*

*Timothy Horan  
Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health & Recreation &  
Family Consumer Science*

*Sue Huscilowitc  
Director of Instructional Technology and Student Information*

*Kathleen Sapanski  
Director of Mathematics & Business*

*Brian Taylor  
Director of Science and Technology*

**Board of Education**  
*Steven Gellar, President  
Scott Brady, Vice President  
Annmarie LaRosa  
Ronald Maginniss  
Kevin O'Connor  
Robert Ulrich  
Michael Zotto*

# West Islip Public Schools



## **Parents' Guide to Elementary Report Cards (K-5)**



*Through hardships to the stars...*

## Introduction

The West Islip School District's Elementary Report Cards are based upon the philosophy that reports to parents need to fully communicate what students are expected to know and be able to do in alignment to the West Islip Learning Standards. Learning Standards can be found in our grade level curriculum overviews. The report card format provides the opportunity to define grade level expectations, communicate your child's academic progress, and indicate whether your child is demonstrating appropriate behaviors that promote learning and respect. The report card also provides parents with an outline of the expectations in literacy, math, science, social studies, art, music, and physical education.

The **Kindergarten** experience provides students with new learning under the guidance, prompting and support of the kindergarten teachers. The Kindergarten program heavily relies on a social curriculum. Therefore, *Readiness Skills* are also assessed to provide appropriate levels of support for student success.



## Understanding the Rubrics

The K-5 report cards are distributed three times per school year.

The academic performance levels for grades **K and 1** are defined as:

MG—Meets goals  
P—Progressing toward goals  
NP—Needs more practice and support

The Performance Level represents your child's progress this marking period. It is a holistic assessment based upon learning demonstrated through participation in class, group projects, homework, and assessments (both formal and informal). Performance levels use numbers to reflect your child's progress toward meeting each goal. The academic performance levels for **grades 2 through 5** are defined as:

4 - Exceeds Grade Level Standards:  
Demonstrates knowledge, understands, applies and extends learned concepts and skills. Produces work of outstanding quality.

3 - Meets standards:  
Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of learned concepts and skills. Produces quality work.

2 - Partially Meets Standards:  
Meets some requirements for grade level work. Beginning to demonstrate knowledge of learned concepts and skills. Produces quality work inconsistently.

1 - Not meeting standards:  
Seldom meets requirements for grade level work. Demonstrates minimal understanding of concepts and skills. Assistance is necessary to produce work.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the purpose of the elementary report cards?

The Elementary Report Cards provide detailed feedback to parents regarding the progress their child is making towards the learning goals and curriculum at their grade level. It will allow parents and students to clearly understand expectations and what is necessary to be successful in a rigorous academic program.

### How will parents/guardians know if their child is performing on grade level?

Level 3 reports that a student is consistently performing on grade level expectations. Level 4 reports that a student *always* performs well above grade-level expectations. A student may perform at different levels on some categories of reading, writing, and mathematics and receive a level 2. A level 2 indicates the student is working towards grade level expectations and may not necessarily indicate a need of support beyond the classroom. Our expectation that all students work toward performing at Level 3 (on grade level) and beyond by the end of the school year.

### How will teachers calculate each student's performance?

Teachers will use a variety of measures to determine performance levels, including criterion-referenced tests, rubrics, class work, homework, tests, and participation in class.