



Appleton Area *School District*

122 E. College Avenue, Suite 1A • P.O. Box 2019 • Appleton, WI 54912-2019 • (920) 832-6161

February 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As the Appleton Area School District (AASD) continues to improve teaching and learning for all students, we know that parents, guardians, and families are our most valuable partners. Communicating student progress with families is critical to these partnerships. The progress report reflects the Appleton Area School District's standards/expectations for academics and behavior. These standards set high expectations for students, staff, and schools. Achieving these college and career readiness standards requires continuous progress monitoring and targeted support, as needed.

This is our second year of standards-based reporting to measure student progress at the elementary level in the Appleton Area School District. Because our district has transitioned to a new student information system, you will notice that the format of your child's progress report looks different than last year's report but is still organized by content area. In addition, the wording of some of the standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics has been simplified to enhance understanding for all.

This year, progress in Art, Music and Physical Education is being reported using standards, which is also a change from last year's report. Art and Music standards describe the continuous progress of students from kindergarten through grade six. Teachers will assess these continuously building skills at each grade level. The standards listed for Physical Education are the themes that are addressed in Grades K-2 and 3-6. Each grade level has standards that are assessed within those themes. A full explanation of those standards can be found at <http://www1.aasd.k12.wi.us/sp/dept/ACI/Pages/ProgressReports.aspx>. If you have further questions, please contact your child's Art, Music or Physical Education teacher.

Learning habits play an important role in a student's success. We believe that communicating with you regarding your child's effort and behavior is important. Students will get separate marks for effort and work habits in an area of the progress report entitled, *Characteristics of Lifelong Learners* using grade specific expectations/standards.

We have worked hard to refine this year's progress report and have provided additional resources that can be found at <http://www1.aasd.k12.wi.us/sp/dept/ACI/Pages/ProgressReports.aspx>. However, we know that you may still have additional questions and suggestions for improvement. Please contact your child's teacher directly if you have specific questions about your child's level of performance. In order for us to improve this important communication tool, we would appreciate it if you would take time to provide us with your feedback to the survey questions on the reverse side of this letter.

Please return this survey to your child's school office by Monday, February 16th in the envelope provided.

Sincerely,

AASD Elementary Progress Report Leadership Team