

Vocabulary Used on Skills-Based Report Cards

Print Concepts — These are the basic understandings of how to hold and use a book.

Stamina — Displaying behavior is an extended period of time

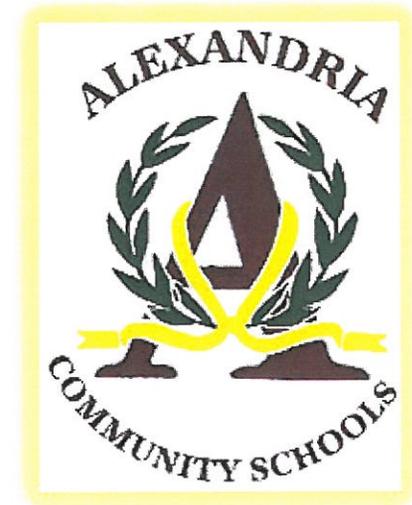
Genre — a type of writing

Decode — figure out how to say a word by sounds or word chunks

Fluency (Oral Reading) - This includes various elements: how many words read in a minute, how it sounds (expression), accuracy (words correct in that minute)

How can I take advantage of the new report card to help my child?

- You will see certain skills that your child will need extra assistance or where they need to be challenged.
- Report cards are designed to communicate with parents—they should be helpful.
- Ask your child's teacher what resources or activities you can do to support and encourage their child's progress.



A Parent's Guide: Skills-Based Report Cards



Alexandria-Monroe Elementary
www.alex.k12.in.us

Our Learning Scale

How is my child progressing?

4 = **EXCEEDS** standards

Your child extends key concepts, processes, and skills independently. They are consistently working beyond stated grade-level benchmarks.

3 = **ACHIEVES** standards

Your child consistently grasps and applies key concepts, processes, and skills independently. They are successfully meeting stated grade-level benchmarks.

2 = **APPROACHING** standards

Your child is beginning to grasp and apply key concepts, processes, and skills with support. They are progressing towards stated benchmarks.

1 = **BELOW** standards

Your child is not grasping key concepts, processes, and essential skills. This is an area of concern that requires support.

N/A = Not assessed at this time.

Why are we using Skills-Based Report Cards?

- Allows for a more detailed report
- Teachers can target specific skills that need more attention.
- Students take ownership of knowledge and learning.
- Instead of letter grades, you will see a number from the adjacent scale that represents your child's progression towards achieving the standards.
- Skills-Based Report Cards show the journey that a child is on throughout their elementary career.

GRADING VS. ASSESSING

Grading was:

- Combined skills
- Homework graded
- Percentage with letter

Assessing is:

- Individual skills
- Differentiated—allows the child to work at their own pace and level
- Rubrics
- Conversations, observations, teacher notes, work samples

Will my child still receive progress reports?

- No, when testing data is available, it will be sent home.
- If a teacher has a concern, then a conference will be scheduled.
- “Grades” will no longer be accessed through Harmony because teachers and your child are working towards mastery of each standard.

Will my child understand how they are performing in the class?

- Teachers have a learning goal (an “I can” worded standard) posted in their classroom. These goals reflect what is being assessed.
- Along with the learning goal, students are aware of the learning scale (also posted in a teacher's class). They are assessing themselves and their learning while at school.