

Dear Parents/ Legal Guardians,

British Columbia has a redesigned curriculum which means that we are also redesigning how we assess and report on student progress. The goal of communicating student learning is to ensure that parents are well informed about their children's progress. As a result, in Richmond we are working to support new practices for how we communicate student learning.

According to the guidelines from the Ministry of Education, effective communication between the home and the school is central to student success. Communication about student learning also requires ongoing interactions and dialogue about student progress throughout the school year, involving the teacher, the student, and the parent, to provide up-to-date information about the student's learning.

(Reporting Student Progress, Grades K-9: Guidelines for School Districts)

All elementary schools continue to communicate about students' progress five times per year, which may be done in a variety of ways. For example, a student-parent-teacher conference, samples of student learning in a portfolio, progress reports about areas of learning, videos of students' learning and goal setting, or progress reports generated from the MyEd BC system.

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know about a few changes in the current progress report from previous report cards.

- 1) Format. Many schools are providing a progress report that was generated by teachers using a new program called MyEd BC. There are also some schools using an alternative form of communicating student learning that has been approved by the school district.
- 2) Subjects. In the redesigned curriculum, some of the subject areas have been re-named and there are some additions. Applied Design, Skills and Technologies and Career Education are new subject areas. Progress in these two subjects will reported through comments only.
- 3) Personal and Social Responsibility. Your child's teacher may choose to comment on work habits directly or through comments about personal and social responsibility.

The BC Ministry of Education curriculum website (www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca) is a great resource for information about curriculum and assessment changes and updates.

If you have questions or concerns about the progress report format or redesigned curriculum, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or school principal. Thank you for supporting your child's learning and growth!

Sincerely,



Sherry Elwood
Superintendent of Schools



Lynn Archer
Assistant Superintendent