



LIMESTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

You may be aware that the Ministry of Education recently released **Growing Success - Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in Ontario Schools 2010**. This document was developed following significant consultation with educational stakeholders including teachers, parents, students, teacher federations and School Board leaders from across the province. The purpose was to establish a clear and consistent policy on assessment, evaluation and reporting with the aim of improving student learning, maintaining high standards, and improving communication with parents in all schools in Ontario.

Previously, students in Grades 1 - 8 received a Provincial Report Card three times during the school year: December, March and June. This new policy document includes **revisions** to the format and frequency of the Elementary Report Cards. The first Elementary Provincial Report Card traditionally distributed in December of the school year has been replaced with the Elementary Progress Report Card. This report will be distributed on November 12, 2010 and will provide parents with an early indication of their child's general progress.

The Elementary Provincial Report Card will now be distributed twice during the school year and will report student achievement levels in all areas. This report will be distributed on February 18, 2011 and June 28, 2011.

Further details regarding the Elementary Report Cards are listed below.

Elementary Report Cards, 2010-2011

Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, the following reports will be used in all elementary schools in Ontario:

1. Elementary **Progress Report Card** distributed in the fall
2. Elementary **Provincial Report Card** distributed in the winter and spring

The learning skills and work habits have been revised and are consistent on Grade 1 - 12 report cards. The aim is to develop skills which will help students succeed in school and throughout their lives. Report cards will provide a record of the learning skills and work habits demonstrated by students in six categories: responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation.

Helen Chadwick - Chair | Brenda Hunter - Director of Education and Secretary | Roger H. Richard - Treasurer

Our Students, Our Future

Elementary Progress Report Card, Grades 1 - 8

The Elementary Progress Report Card, Grades 1 - 8 is new, and is designed to share information with parents about their child's general progress early in the school year in the development of the learning skills and work habits, as well as a student's general progress in working towards the achievement of the curriculum expectations. Progress reports will not include marks or letter grades, but rather progress will be reported by indicating if the student is "progressing with difficulty", "progressing well", or "progressing very well". This report is intended to provide parents with an early indication of their child's progress. The Elementary Progress Report Card will be distributed on **November 12, 2010**.

Elementary Provincial Report Card, Grades 1 - 8

The Elementary Provincial Report Card, Grades 1 - 8 will be distributed **twice** during the school. The first provincial report card will reflect the student's achievement of curriculum expectations from September to February of the school year, as well as the student's development of the learning skills and work habits during that period. This report will be distributed on **February 18, 2011**.

The second provincial report card will reflect the student's achievement of the curriculum expectations from February to June of the school year, as well as the student's development of the learning skills and work habits and will be distributed on **June 28, 2011**.

Kindergarten Reports

For the 2010-2011 school year, all Kindergarten classes, including the Full-Day Early Learning - Kindergarten Program will continue to use the Kindergarten Report Card and will be distributed twice during the school year: February 16 & 17, 2011 and June 27 & 28, 2011.

Communication with Parents

Parents have an important role to play in supporting student learning. Studies show that student performance improves when parents or guardians are involved in their education. Throughout the school year, schools will continue to provide ongoing communication with parents, guardians and students through such strategies as phone calls, newsletters and conferences. Parents are encouraged to communicate regularly with their child's teachers and to contact the school when questions arise.

For those who wish to read the entire policy document "Growing Success", please visit the Ministry website at www.edu.gov.on.ca

For further information, please contact your School Principal.