

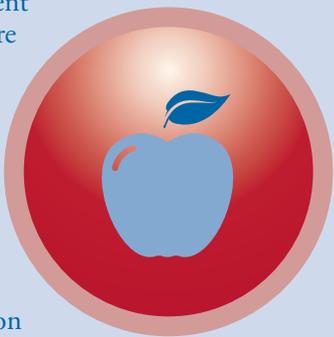


About Standards

The Pennsylvania Department of Education mandates a standards-based educational system by which districts can demonstrate student mastery of academic standards. Standards define what student must know and be able to do in each subject area. The standards-based report card is a reporting tool that helps describe specific student competencies. Report cards are issued three times per year in kindergarten through fifth grade.

LEARNING IS THE GOAL. The Kennett Consolidated School District wants each student to meet or exceed state standards. It is also a district priority that children of all levels experience maximum growth.

Standards form the basis of the KCS D curriculum and assessment system. Classroom assessment and instruction is aligned to the standards, and multiple assessments are given to determine your child's strengths and weaknesses. The standards-based report card is just one part of reporting your child's achievements, but it is the cornerstone. It joins with standardized testing, curriculum based assessments, and student work to create a picture of student achievement and learning. The emphasis is on quality work. The teacher's professional evaluation remains the most critical element in assigning ratings based on all available evidence and objective criteria.



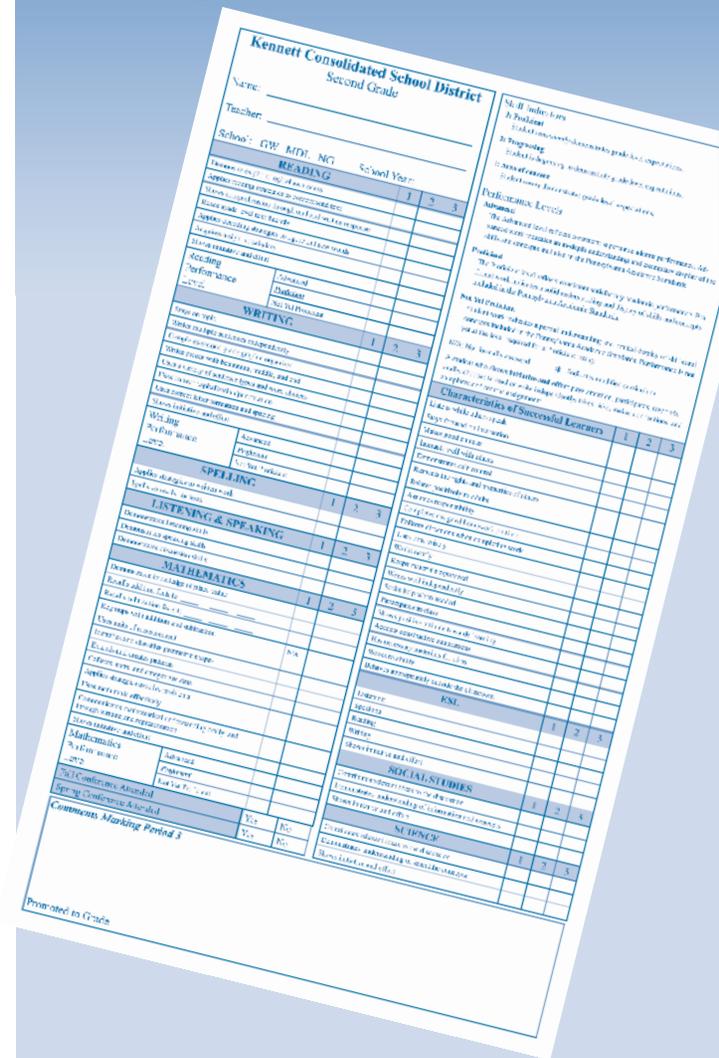
Kennett Consolidated School District
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Kennett Square, PA 19348

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Non-Discrimination Policy

The Kennett Consolidated School District will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Kennett Consolidated School District students and parents who have an inquiry or complaint of harassment or discrimination, or who need information about accommodations for persons with disabilities, should contact Dr. Rudolph E Karkosak, District Superintendent, 300 East South Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348, telephone (610) 444-6600.

Understanding Your Child's Report Card





How My Child is Rated

Skill indicators in grades K-5

- 3: Proficient* Student consistently demonstrates grade level expectations
- 2: Progressing* Student is beginning to demonstrate grade level expectations
- 1: Area of concern* Student rarely demonstrates grade level expectations

Performance Levels in grades 1-5

Advanced – The Advanced level reflects consistent superior academic performance. Advanced work indicates an in-depth understanding and exemplary display of the skills and concepts included in the Pennsylvania Academic Standards.

Proficient – The Proficient level reflects consistent satisfactory academic performance. Proficient work indicates a solid understanding and display of the skills and concepts included in the Pennsylvania Academic Standards.

Not Yet Proficient – Student work indicates a partial understanding and limited display of skills and concepts included in the Pennsylvania Academic Standards.

Grading Scale for grades 3,4,5

A+	98-100	C-	70-72
A	93-97	D+	68-69
A-	90-92	D	63-67
B+	88-89	D-	60-62
B	83-87	F	59 & below
B-	80-82	O	Outstanding
C+	78-79	S	Satisfactory
C	73-77	N	Needs improvement



Frequently Asked Questions



What are skill indicators?

Skill indicators provide parents and teachers with specific information on learners' strengths and weaknesses. Students are assigned 1's, 2's or 3's on skills in each subject area. A three means that the child is on target for the trimester on the specific skill assessed. The numbers on the skill indicators are the major factors in determining performance levels. Students receive skill indicators in every grade.



What is a Performance Level?

A performance level indicates whether students are on target with grade level standards for an entire subject each trimester. There are three levels: Advanced, Proficient, and Not Yet Proficient. A proficient rating or higher is the goal for each student in each trimester.



Is the performance level based on averages?

No. Performance Levels are not derived from a numerical average. They are determined from the preponderance of numbers assigned in the skill indicator columns for each subject according to district criteria. The performance level portrays the compilation of all of the major standards within a subject. A Proficient student consistently performs at grade level overall in the subject area.



Do many children receive the Advanced performance level?

No. The advanced rating is for students who demonstrate superior academic performance at an in-depth level and consistently excel in all areas of classroom work. The criteria for Advanced is very high, but achievable, and is truly a distinguished rating. The Kennett Consolidated School District regards the PROFICIENT performance level rating as a quality seal of approval.



What does it mean if my child's grade is marked with an asterisk?

A letter grade with an asterisk next to it indicates that the grade reflects modified curriculum for second language learners or special education goals.



Why do I need a letter grade and also a performance level?

The performance level indicates where a child is in reference to grade level criterion for each grade and trimester. In grades three through five, the letter grade can also reflect the growth your child is making. Teachers must meet the students at whatever level they begin, whether they are below, on or above grade level, and move them forward. This growth can be reflected in the letter grade and is an important indicator that learning has been accomplished. Both pieces of information are necessary to get a true picture of each student's strengths, weaknesses and performance on state standards.



How can my child receive an A and only be rated Proficient?

An A next to Proficient reflects work done at grade level. The Advanced rating is awarded to students working well above grade level in reading and writing, and performing substantially superior difficulty mathematical reasoning and problem solving.



What happens if my child is Not Yet Proficient?

Teachers, students and parents must work together to address the areas of need. Extra practice, tutoring, summer programs, or extra help at home may be suggested.



Who decides who gets retained in a grade?

Keeping a student in a grade for another year is always an informed team decision between parent/guardian, principal, student, guidance and teachers. Retention is not the answer for all achievement difficulties. In some cases, summer programs and extra tutoring may be recommended.



What is a rubric?

A rubric is a scoring tool that lets students and parents know the expectations in advance of major assignments. The criteria for assignments should not be a secret to anyone. With rubrics, students have a clear description of what constitutes quality work and how their work will be rated.