

December 3, 2018

Dear NIS Families,

This school year our NIS report card committee has begun to make changes to our report card.

- We revised the ratings key to better reflect student performance against the noted grade level standards and topics of study.
- We reworded standards to be more parent friendly.
- We are providing narrative comments under each subject area to provide specific information about what your child is doing well and next steps for continued growth.

We also recognized that our increased focus on lifting the level of teaching and learning to match the state expectations for rigor, has resulted in some lower ratings for students than received in the past.

- *Here is one such example:* In the past a student's reading proficiency was most heavily measured by how well the student read fluently and accurately at their instructional reading level: the level a child can read and comprehend with teacher support. This school year we are assessing students' independent reading levels: the level students can read and comprehend on their own. Comprehension is most heavily weighted now.

We believe we are more accurately assessing student skills and knowledge against the MA Framework Standards expectations.

On the back of this letter you will find our revised ratings key with descriptors.

- Note there is no rating for *Exceeding Expectations*. The committee discussed this decision at length and ultimately decided that any student 'above' the target is considered as *Meeting Expectations*. If a student is truly exceptional in a specific area, teachers are able to provide recognition through narrative comments in that subject.

As we continue to revise our report card, we need your input! Shortly after parent/teacher conferences we will be sending out a survey to complete about the report card. Your feedback is very important, so please don't hesitate to share it with us.

Respectfully,

The Nantucket Intermediate School Report Card Committee

Evaluation Key:

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M = Meeting Expectations

PM = Partially Meeting Expectations

NM = Not Meeting Expectations

I = Recently Introduced

Meeting Expectations:

- A student performing at this level is meeting the grade level expectations for this standard/topic taught thus far and is academically on track to succeed in the current grade in this subject, on this standard/topic.

Partially Meeting Expectations:

- A student performing at this level is partially meeting the grade level expectations on this standard/topic, in this subject for curriculum taught thus far and/or requires some additional support to be academically on track to succeed in the current grade on this standard/topic.

Not Meeting Expectations:

- A student performing at this level is not currently meeting the grade level expectations on this standard/topic, in this subject for curriculum taught thus far and requires additional regular support to progress toward meeting the grade-level expectations on this standard/topic.

Recently Introduced:

- This standard/topic has been introduced and students are currently working on this standard/topic now, but due to the fact that it has been recently introduced there is not enough assessment data to assign a proper rating at this time.