

November 23, 2022


Dear Parents/Guardians of Ecole Heritage Park Middle School students,

**Re: Assessment and Communicating Learning**

I am writing to let you know about some changes you will see on your child's report card this year. The Ministry of Education and Childcare has issued a new Assessment Policy Framework that will be fully implemented in September 2023 and some teachers at EHPMS are getting started now. A few teachers were piloting the changes last year so you may have some familiarity.

The purpose of the new Reporting Order is to communicate learning in ways that more closely reflect the redesigned curriculum that focuses on the depth of learning, active participation of students, and development of Core Competencies (thinking, communicating, and personal skills).

One of the most obvious shifts you will see on your child's next report card is the introduction of the Ministry's Proficiency Scale instead of letter grades. In September, this scale will be used for all students K-9.

<b>Proficiency Scale</b>				
	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
	The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.

It is important to note

- The proficiency scale does not equate to letter grades – Extending is not A, Proficient is not B, etc.
- Proficiency is the goal for students, but of course everyone learns at different rates and in different ways.
- We want to see growth over time for everyone, regardless of where they start on the proficiency scale.
- Proficiency does not mean perfection; it means the student can demonstrate grade level competency consistently or most of the time.
- Extending indicates depth of complexity and understanding. It is not about doing extra work. While some students will reach this level in some subjects, it is not expected that everyone should reach this level.

This year will be a learning time for everyone, and we look forward to working with you as we implement changes to support assessment and communication of learning.

Please continue to reach out to your child's teacher if you have questions about your child's progress. You can also contact me if you have questions about the Ministry's Assessment Framework ([karen.alvarez@mpsd.ca](mailto:karen.alvarez@mpsd.ca)).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Alvarez', written in a cursive style.

Karen Alvarez,  
Assistant Superintendent