Pedagogical Services Department Information to Parents MELS Elementary and Secondary Report Card

Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s):

On May 31, 2007 Premier Jean Charest and the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sport (MELS), Madame Michelle Courchesne, announced the implementation of a uniform report card across the province beginning in September 2007. The use of a standardized report card on which a student's competency development is reported in percentages responds to the wishes of a large majority of parents throughout the English and French-speaking sectors of the province.

MELS Report Card

Percentages will not be used on report cards for pre-school or kindergarten children. At all other levels, from Elementary to Secondary Cycle One students will receive competency based report cards for each term and at the end of each cycle. Secondary Cycle Two Year 1 (Secondary 3) students will receive competency based report cards for each term and at the end of the year. In order for parents to have a better understanding of what their children are studying in school, the wording of the competencies will be rephrased as of January 2008.

Term Assessments:

You will receive the following information on your child's report card each term:

- Comments on your child's progress.
- Where appropriate, an indication that the child is following an IEP (Individualized Education Plan).
- Anecdotal evaluation of work habits will appear at the end of each term at the elementary level.
- A mark, expressed in percentages, for at least one subject-specific competency in each subject.
- A subject result, expressed in percentages, in each subject.
- A class average, expressed in percentages, in each subject.
 - At the elementary level, if your child is in a multilevel class, the class average is not the average of the entire class but rather that of each group.
 - Students following a modified program or having an IEP are not included in the class average.

Calculation of marks:

 Competencies within each subject have different weightings; the mark will be calculated based on the weighting of the competencies that are evaluated during the term in question.

For example, a student having obtained the following marks:

Math Competencies/Weightings	Competency level attained
Uses mathematical reasoning - 45%	68%
Solves a situational problem – 30 %	52%
Communicates by using mathematical language – 25%	92%

The student's subject result would therefore be:

$$(45\% \text{ of } 68) + (30\% \text{ of } 52) + (25\% \text{ of } 92) = 69\%$$

For any term in which <u>not all the</u> subject-specific competencies are being reported on, the subject result will be calculated according to the marks and the weightings of those competencies evaluated, for example:

Math Competencies/Weightings	Competency level attained
Uses mathematical reasoning - 45%	68%
Solves a situational problem – 30 %	52%
Communicates by using math language – 25%	NE (Not Evaluated)

The student's subject result would therefore be:

$$(45\% \text{ of } 68) + (30\% \text{ of } 52) = 62\%$$

• Since teachers will make global professional judgements on each competency, they will be using fixed marks (100-92-84-76-68-60-52-44)

End-of-Cycle Results:

You will receive the following information on your child's report card at the end of a cycle:

- A mark, expressed in percentages, for every subject-specific competency in each subject.
- A subject result, expressed in percentages, for your child in each subject.
- A class average, expressed in percentages, in each subject.
- Comments on the development of at least one cross-curricular competency at the end of each cycle.

In conclusion, we would like to emphasize that the report card represents only one form of communication between you, the parent, and the school community concerning your child's academic, social, and personal development. You are always welcome to ask for clarification or additional information on your child's progress.

We wish you and your child a successful and enriching school year.

Alessandra Furfaro

Director of Pedagogical Services

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