

Dear LMS Families,

At Leonard Middle School we are continuing to implement proficiency-based learning and reporting. Many of you may know this as “standards-based” which has the same meaning. Our community has learned a lot about this philosophical shift over the past several years but because the report looks very different from what many parents are accustomed to, we thought it would be helpful to provide this brief guide to interpreting the report card. Please use this guide to better understand your student’s report and to generate conversations at home related to goal setting and academic and behavioral achievement.

Why all the blank space?

This report prints all standards associated with a course to give a complete picture of what will be covered during an academic year. As these standards are taught and assessed, summary scores are recorded. Standards without scores for trimester one will be taught and assessed later in the school year.

My student is meeting and exceeding standards, what does that mean?

Meeting and exceeding standards is what all students aim to do. Meeting a standard represents mastery and exceeding a standard shows that a student consistently demonstrates an advanced level of mastery and/or the ability to apply knowledge at a higher level.

My student is partially meeting a standard, should I be concerned?

Students partially meet academic standards when they are working toward mastery but are not yet there. Mastery of a skill is being able to demonstrate proficiency independently and consistently and not all kids reach mastery at the same time. Proficiency-based scoring affords the flexibility to reteach and reassess standards throughout the school year and even update proficiency scores as students reach a higher level of mastery.

My student is not meeting a standard, should I be concerned?

To score a Does Not Meet the Standard (DM) there is either insufficient assessment data to accurately assess a student’s proficiency in that area or the student has demonstrated that they are not building proficiency in that area. Generally, the score indicates the latter, unless otherwise indicated in the comments. These scores indicate areas where students need to put in significant effort to reach academic mastery and should be viewed as an academic priority. They are an opportunity for growth.

How can I help my student improve his/her academic proficiency?

Not all students reach mastery at the same time and students don’t have to meet or exceed every standard to be successful students. The best thing you can do to support your student in reaching

