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### Santa Ana Unified School District Report Card Guide

## **For Parents**

A standards-based report card communicates progress toward meeting end-of-year learning standards. Teachers assess student performance against these learning standards, which are aligned to the new State Standards. Teachers do this by measuring individual student performance in relationship to the standards rather than in relation to the performance of other students. The report card does not reflect average grades on assignments and assessments over the trimester, but rather shows how students are progressing toward standards mastery by the end of each trimester.

Our report cards reflect the learning standards as outlined in the California State Frameworks, and the new State Standards. From the beginning of the school year, the standards-based report card keeps teachers, parents, and students focused on the desired outcomes for year-end learning goals.

The Santa Ana Unified School District places a strong value on home-school partnerships, and we view the report card as an important tool in furthering our shared understanding about student growth in academics, work habits, and social skills.

#### Marks Indicating Progress Toward Standards



Thorough understanding:

Adequate understanding:

3

Student consistently and automatically applies his/her understanding of the standard during all subjects. Student is **able to apply his/her understanding** within a particular subject.

For more information about your child's report card, go online to www.bit.ly/sausd



Partial understanding:

Student is **able to demonstrate some of the essential skills/ concepts** related to that particular standard but has not yet fully developed his/ her understanding within the areas of instruction. Minimal understanding:

GRADE

Student is **unable to apply the essential skills and concepts** related to that particular standard. The student is working toward mastery of his/ her understanding of the standard.

SAUSD Educational Services Rev. 2016





#### Questions to ask your child's teacher

Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher—you are an important part of your child's education. Ask to see a sample of your child's work or bring a sample with you. Ask the teacher questions like:

- Is my child at the level where he/she should be at this point of the school year?
- In what ways has my child grown academically and socially so far this year?
- What do you think is giving my child the most trouble? How can I help my child improve in this area?
- Where is my child excelling? How can I support this success?

#### Helping Your Child Learn Outside of School

Language Arts
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- Provide time and space for your child to read independently. This time should be free from distractions such as television.
- 2. Ask your child what he or she learned from reading and how that knowledge can be used in real life. Have him or her read the most interesting or useful sections aloud.
- 3. It is also helpful when your child sees other people reading at home. You could share what you have read.
- Keep track of the time that your child spends reading every day. Note what kind of reading materials he or she likes (books, magazines, newspaper articles, the Internet, etc.). Then look for additional materials that would encourage your child to read more.
- 5. Be sure your child has a library card. Children should select books they are interested in to develop a passion for reading. Many libraries have book clubs and family activities that make reading fun for the entire family.
- 6. Use technology to help build your child's interest in reading. There are several websites where students can read books or articles online. The computer will help with words the student cannot read independently. Libraries also have computers students can use to access those sites. Feel free to ask a librarian or teacher for suggestions.

#### Math

 Use everyday objects to allow your child to explore the concept of fractions. For example, use measuring cups so students see how many times you



have to refill a 1/4 cup to equal a 1/2 cup or how many 1/3's are in two cups. Have students describe two fractions that are equal using a measuring cup (filling a 1/4 measuring cup twice is the same as filling one 1/2 measuring cup).

- Have your child write or describe fractions in different ways. For example, what are some different ways to make 3/4? Answers could include 1/4+1/4+1/4 or 3x1/4.
- 3. Ask your child create and describe equal fractions. For example, have students take a sheet of paper, fold the paper in half, and then unfold and shade 1/2. Then have students take the same sheet of paper and fold the paper in a half again. Unfold the paper and have students discuss the number of parts that are now shaded. Encourage your child to talk about ways to show that 1/2 =2/4. (Students may continue this process creating other equal fractions.)
- 4. Encourage your child to stick with it whenever a problem seems difficult. This will help your child see that everyone can learn math.
- 5. Praise your child when he or she makes an effort and share in the excitement when he or she solves a problem or understands something for the first time.

