

## EAST LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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March 17, 2022

Dear Elementary School Families,

In preparation for the release of our elementary school second trimester report cards tomorrow, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind families that we have adopted a standards-based report card for English Language Arts and Math this year. As East Lyme Public Schools continues to improve the teaching and learning process for all students, we know that parents and families are our most valuable partners. That is why we want to provide families with a report card that demonstrates accurate and meaningful information, particularly about student strengths and challenges as it relates to end-of-year grade-level expectations.

Please be advised that the standards-based report card is a way to clarify and reinforce consistent end-of-year grade-level expectations for each of our students. Consequently, the rating on the report card indicates your child's progress towards meeting specific end-of-year grade-level outcomes. In other words, it is normal to see "1's" and "2's" on the report card as those ratings indicate your child's ability to demonstrate mastery of an end of year expectation. Our focus is on identifying areas where your child has grown as well as areas in which they may find additional challenges and how we can work together to support his or her progress.

I encourage you to participate in the upcoming March conferences with your child's teacher to discuss in more detail your child's evidence of growth in particular areas from the beginning of the year to now. If you are unable to attend a conference, your child's teacher will follow-up with a written narrative that will provide you with additional information regarding your child's progress.

For additional information on the report card, please refer to our <u>parent guide</u>. You can contact your child's teacher with any specific questions you may have regarding your child's progress. As this is our first year of implementation, we welcome your feedback.

Thank you,

Annaliese Spaziano

Assistant Superintendent of Schools