K-8 Standards-Referenced Report Card

CFSD is implementing standards-referenced report cards at the elementary and middle school levels. In standards-referenced grading and reporting systems, grades/scores reflect what students know and can do relative to the Catalina Foothills School District curriculum. The purpose of the district's standards-referenced grading system is to measure a student's performance and product against defined grade-level expectations. Proficient (3.0) means that a student has demonstrated that he or she has learned the required skills and concepts.



The report card lists the essential categories/domains for each subject area. We call them measurement topics. Students receive indicators of progress based on a four-point rubric to show how well they are performing in those areas. At middle school, students will also receive an overall score for each subject. Standards-referenced grade/scores help teachers plan their instruction so they can challenge and support all students. They help parents know the academic areas in which a student meets or exceeds the standard, needs challenge, or needs support. For each marking period, the teacher will indicate how well a student is progressing using the following scale:

Rubric Score	Descriptor
4.0	Highly Proficient (Exceeds Expectations)
3.0	Proficient (Meets Expectations)
2.0	Partially Proficient (Approaching Expectations)
1.0	Minimally Proficient (Below Expectations)

The standards-referenced grading system separately assesses the influence of positive and consistent work habits, effort, and participation. Students will receive a grade/score for development and growth in Personal Responsibility (Work completion/Effort, Class Participation, and Behavior/Conduct), CFSD's Deep Learning Proficiencies (Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Citizenship, Creativity and Innovation, Communication, Collaboration, Systems Thinking), and the CFSD Technology Standards.

Scores on the report card can provide useful information because they indicate where the student is performing at a particular point in time and what needs to be done to improve or advance to the next level of the rubric continuum. It is important to remember that grades/scores are the result of a number of factors (tests, assignments, presentations, discussions, observations, simulations, projects, etc.), and some knowledge and skills may not be attained until at or near the end of a school year. The goal is to identify, for every student, the next appropriate "stretch" to move students toward higher levels of learning.

Students and parents can use ParentVUE / StudentVUE, a password-protected portal in Synergy, to review grades/scores. Parents are encouraged to talk to their child's teacher about specific questions concerning grades/scores.