

September 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Subject: Reporting Pilot Project – Student, Teacher, Family Conference

This year, the North Vancouver School District is introducing a variety of initiatives related to new curriculum assessment and reporting. One of these initiatives is a district-sponsored reporting pilot project, which will involve the participation of all elementary schools within the Carson Graham Family of Schools.

This reporting pilot aims to enhance student learning through student empowerment and meaningful communication between students, parents and teachers. In participating schools, the first of the annual three formal report cards will be replaced with a three-way conference that will bring together students, parents and teachers to collectively evaluate and reflect on student learning. The conference is intended to foster dialogue between the student, parent and teacher, with the student sharing examples of his/her learning and talking about areas he/she feels are strengths as well as those which may need improvement or support. Teachers will share their insights and observations of the student's progress and parents will be invited to ask questions and learn how to become more actively involved in supporting their child's learning. Each student's learning goals for the year will be established during the conference, and, together, students, parents and teachers will identify how to support students to achieve their goals.

Prior to the three-way conference, students will receive help and time to prepare for the conference. Conferences will be 20 minutes in duration and will focus on student learning, with all parties sharing in the dialogue equally. Over the next few weeks, schools will provide specific details about the conferences, which will be scheduled over a period of four days. Please feel free to contact your school if you have any questions about this reporting pilot.

While families will participate in a three-way conference for the first reporting period, students will receive a more traditional formal report card in the second and third reporting period. These report cards, however, will differ from those distributed in the past. As part of this pilot, all report cards for elementary school students Kindergarten to Grade 7 will use the same performance standards identified in the three-way conference, in lieu of letter grades. At the end of the pilot project in June 2018, the district will seek feedback from parents and students to help in assessing the success of the pilot.

Reporting Pilot for the 2017-2018 school year for all elementary schools in the Carson Graham Family of Schools

- Term 1: Three-way conference with student, teacher and parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Term 2: Report card using performance standards
- Term 3: Report card using performance standards

Additional information about the new BC curriculum and assessment framework can be found on the Ministry of Education New Curriculum website <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>.

Sincerely,



Chris Atkinson
Assistant Superintendent
North Vancouver School District

