

PARENT GUIDE TO ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

September 2024



UNDERSTANDING ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

Foothills School Division focuses on research-based assessment practices to enhance student learning. Assessments help teachers adjust instruction, monitor progress, and provide feedback. The main goal is to improve student learning, with parental involvement being crucial for student success through collaboration with educators.

WHAT IS ASSESSMENT?

Assessment involves collecting information on a student's knowledge and skills related to learning objectives.
Assessments are criterion-referenced, comparing student performance to set learner outcomes in the Alberta Programs of Study and Curriculum.



Conversations



MULTIPLE MODES OF ASSESSMENT

Educators gather diverse evidence beyond essays and exams, including observing skills, discussions, and product-based evidence to assess student learning through triangulating evidence.

WHAT IS REPORTING?

Reporting in the FSD System involves daily monitoring of student progress against learning outcomes, documenting evidence to inform parents about strengths, growth areas, and next steps in learning.





REPORTING PERIODS AND LEARNER PROFILES

The FSD annual reporting schedule for kindergarten to grade 12 incudes:

- Two reporting periods
- Two Learner Conferences
- Two Learner Profiles

THE FOOTHILLS SCHOOL DIVISION SYSTEM OF REPORTING

Monitoring Learning

Teachers check the progress of learning against learning outcomes and success criteria DAILY through a variety of strategies: Observation, questioning, reflection, discussing learning with peers and teachers, and well-considered feedback to feed-forward the next steps in learning.

Meet the Teacher Conferences

Each family has an opportunity for individual time with the teacher to establish open communication, learn about the child, share learning goals, and develop a partnership approach to the year of learning.

Learner Conferences

Each family will receive an opportunity to review examples of student work that demonstrate areas of success, growth, and next steps.

Gradebook Updates

Parents will receive monthly emails reminding them to log in to their Edsembli account to stay updated on their child's learning progress. Parents are encouraged to log in regularly to keep up-to-date on student progress.

Documenting Learning

Teachers collect evidence of learning. Documentation can be physical or digital and can be displayed or recorded in a variety of media forms. Documentation of learning is shared with families to make learning visible and apparent. It reveals insights into learning and identifies areas of success, areas for growth, and next steps for students.

Progress Updates

Teachers will communicate about individual student progress to provide feedback. Parents will receive information on the progress of learning outcomes covered to date. Teachers may communicate through various formats including email, phone calls, portfolios, teacher-created progress reports etc.

Learner Profiles

Learner Profiles are published to share a level of achievement describing a student's progress toward, and achievement of, grade-level outcomes.

edsembli

bit.ly/FSD-Portal

- Registration
- School Fees
- Student Progress
- & More

In response to feedback received from parents, students and teachers, our refined System of Reporting adds a common 5-point scale from grades K through 8, more strength-based language, and clearer communication of literacy-based outcomes.

How are Grade Levels Determined?

Grades K - **8**: Grades are levels of achievement in a 5-point system. The additional level has been added for consistency within our K-8 and K-9 schools and align with provincial junior high assessments (PATs). Assignments are associated with Learner Outcomes, and each of these outcomes is graded. The outcomes are grouped within Organizing Ideas for the Learner Profile.

Grades 9 to 12: Grades are expressed by percentage. Teachers will also provide descriptive, written feedback to improve learning. Percentage grades are calculated based on predetermined weightings found in the course outline.

GRADE LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Grades K - 8

Levels of Achievement are the scores teachers in kindergarten through to grade 8 use to indicate a student's level of performance, in relation to the grade level outcomes in the Alberta Curriculum. This is a 5-point system.



Student is not yet demonstrating knowledge and skills as outlined in the Alberta Curriculum.



Student is demonstrating partial knowledge and skills and is approaching an understanding of the concepts as outlined in the Alberta Curriculum.



Student is
demonstrating
satisfactory
knowledge and
skills and is
developing an
understanding with
general application
of the concepts as
outlined in the
Alberta Curriculum.



Student is
demonstrating
substantial
knowledge and
skills and shows
comprehensive
understanding with
relevant application
of the concepts as
outlined in the
Alberta Curriculum.



Student is
demonstrating
extensive
knowledge and
skills and shows a
depth of
understanding with
thorough
application of the
concepts
as outlined in the
Alberta Curriculum.



Grades 9 - 12

Grade levels of achievement for students in grades 9 through 12 are percentage-based; however, teachers will communicate how these grades are determined for each class.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING



<u>Graduation requirements, credentials</u> and credits

Alberta's K to 6 Curriculum

<u>Alberta's Programs of Study Grade</u> 7 to 12



