



School Name – Letterhead

October 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are pleased to share our new progress reports to reflect our focus in instruction on the standards our students are expected to know and be able to do. Our teachers focus on teaching California's subject curriculum standards and our assessment now reflects how well students are learning these standards. Our new report cards will provide our students and parents better information on how well students learning these standards. The report card contains the following information:

A. Standards-Based Rubric Marking Code: Our school uses a (5 point rubric or a 4 point rubric) which is explained at the top of the report card. Each number is associated with a letter grade: 5=A; 4=B; 4=C; 2 and 1 = NP (not proficient means not performing well enough to earn a passing grade). Each class a student takes will be assigned a letter grade along with the average rubric score that was used to generate the grade.

B. Life and Work Skills: This year we are assessing our students' non-academic performance in the areas of class participation, behavior, group participation and work completion (homework and class work). This will be reported to you on the report card with the average rubric score for those skills (using the 5 point or 4 point rubric).

C. Teacher Comments: Teachers have the ability to attach comments on the report card as they have done in the past. The description of these numeric codes is explained on the report card for easy reference.

D. Rubric Score: The rubric used to assess your child in all their classes and which explains the average rubric scores is displayed on the report card for your reference. Each number has a description that explains academic performance.

E. Page 2 of the report card shows each subject and the standards that were assessed during that marking period. Each standard displays the average rubric score your student earned during that grading period. These scores are added together to give the student their grade for that subject.

We are excited about our move forward in using a standards-based report card as a more accurate assessment of student learning and is much more educationally sound.

Alliance schools are on the leading edge of the national standards-based instruction and assessment movement. This effort will help our students perform better academically!

Sincerely,

Principal