

## 4th Grade Standards

A sample of what your child will be learning in 4th grade:

### Reading

- Identifying the main idea
- Finding details to support the main idea
- Summarizing text
- Explaining the cause and effect of text
- Making inferences from text
- Identifying story elements

### Math

- Read, write, and compare numbers to 1,000,000
- Add and subtract numbers to 1,000,000
- Multiply 2 digits by 2 digits
- Divide a 4 digit number by a single digit
- Comparing fractions with like and unlike denominators
- Add and subtract mixed numbers
- Solving word problems

For a complete listing of Common Core Standards please visit the following sites:

[www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org)  
<http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/standard/index.shtm>

## 2011-2012 School Year

Fourth grade students will be receiving a traditional report card this year. However, BPS is transitioning to a reporting system aimed at providing feedback to students based on his/her individual performance. Students and parents will begin to see daily work marked with numbers 1- 4 which indicate the student's level of performance toward a learning target.

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Bismarck Public Schools

## Standards and Assessments

4th Grade



# Standards Based Report Cards

## Why a Standards-Based Report Card in 2012-2013?

The most important difference between standards-based instruction and reporting compared to traditional practices is the focus on what students actually learn, not just what is taught.

Standards specify what students are expected to learn and be able to do at each grade level. Performance levels reflect how well students are achieving these standards.

The purpose of this new reporting system is to provide parents more detailed information regarding the progress their child is making toward specific academic learning standards as they are reflected in our district's curriculum. This Standards-Based Report Card allows parents and students to understand more clearly what is expected of students and how to help them be successful in their educational career.

Letter grades measured how well students did in comparison to their classmates. The Standards-Based Report Card measures how well an individual student is doing in relation to the grade-level standards, not the work of other students. This will give parents a better understanding of their child's strengths and needs and encourage all students to do their best.



## How do the Standards-Based grades compare to the previous grading system?

There are four performance level descriptors— 4, 3, 2, 1. These are not intended to equate to a percentage or letter grade.



- 4 = Exceeds the standard
- 3 = Meets the standard
- 2 = Making progress toward the standard
- 1 = Does not yet meet the standard

For example, a 3 should not be interpreted as a B. A score of 3 means that the student is consistently and independently meeting the standard. A score of 2 often indicates that the child needs more time and practice before he /she is ready to meet the standard. A score of 1 indicates that the child is generally unable to meet the standard even with teacher guidance and assistance. A score of 4 indicates that the student is able to independently and consistently demonstrate the standard AND that the student is able to go significantly beyond the expected level of performance.

It is also important to note that each school year, students are being assessed on new standards. At the end of the year, a student may have all 3's because they have mastered the standards for that grade level,. However in the fall they may receive mostly 1's and 2's because they are being assessed on new standards and sufficient instruction and opportunities to learn have not taken place.

# Common Core Standards

## What are the Common Core Standards?

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are a learning expectations in language arts and mathematics designed to prepare K–12 students for college and career success. The CCSS communicate what is expected of students at each grade level, putting students, parents, teachers, and school administrators on the same page, working toward shared goals. While most states already have English language arts and mathematics standards in place, they vary widely from state to state in their coverage and level of rigor.

## What are the benefits of CCSS for parents?

- A common set of standards ensures that all students, no matter where they live, will be focused on graduating from high school prepared for postsecondary education and careers.
- In an increasingly mobile society, families with children transferring to new schools will not have to adjust to new learning expectations. Standards will be the same for all students in states adopting the CCSS, making transitions smoother for students.
- In a competitive global economy, all students must compete with not only American peers in other states, but with students from around the world. The CCSS were designed to prepare students to succeed in this environment.
- Common standards will facilitate conversation among parents, teachers, and children about high-level academic learning goals. Common standards define exactly what students should know and be able to do at each grade level.