



Halton District School Board

Wayne Joudrie, *Director of Education*

Bruce Jones, *Chair of the Board*

June 2010

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of elementary students in Halton District School Board:

In May 2010, the Ministry of Education published a new policy document entitled “Growing Success”. This policy will direct the assessment, evaluation, and reporting of student achievement in Ontario schools, from Kindergarten to Grade 12. The policies outlined in Growing Success document reflect the current state of knowledge about the learning experience and assessment.

One of the initial changes parents of elementary students will notice is a change in the reporting and communicating of their children’s progress and achievement. Previously students would receive a report card at the end of each term; November, March and June. Starting in September 2010 all Grade 1-8 students in Ontario will be bringing home an **Elementary Progress Report Card in November** followed by **Elementary Provincial Report Cards in February and June**.

The purpose of report cards is to communicate student achievement to parents and students. The new reporting system will provide ongoing descriptive feedback that is clear, specific, meaningful, and timely to support improved learning and achievement. By sending an **Elementary Progress Report Card** home earlier we are providing students, teachers and parents with an opportunity to reflect upon progress to date and discuss plans to ensure future success.

The Elementary Progress Report Card you receive in November will not contain grades or numerical marks. The focus of this progress report will be on six learning skills; responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation. These learning skills are essential for success in school and in the world of work. The comments related to subject areas will describe a student’s general progress in working towards the achievement of the curriculum expectations. **The Elementary Progress Report Card will be followed by a parent/guardian and teacher conference on November 12, 2010.**

The **Elementary Provincial Report Card** in February and June will contain grades or numerical marks along with descriptive comments and will also contain feedback related to the same learning skills.

Regular communication between home and school will continue to be encouraged. The Elementary Progress Report Card and Elementary Provincial Report Cards are one aspect of ongoing communication. As always, we encourage parents and guardians to discuss concerns and questions with their child’s teacher at any time.

For more information regarding the Ministry of Education’s Growing Success document and overview of the provincial assessment, evaluation and reporting of achievement policy visit: www.edu.gov.on.ca

Please feel free to contact your child’s principal if you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jeff Blackwell
Superintendent of Education
School Programs