



Reporting Student Learning at James Short Memorial

6333 – 5 Avenue S.E. | 403-777-8170 | 403-777-8173 | James Short Memorial@cbe.ab.ca

October 24, 2013

Dear Parents,

James Short Memorial is in the process of adapting to the new report card requirements. Parents and students have been consulted and teachers and staff have been receiving ongoing training. Many of you saw the display outside and inside our school, talked with us, and indicated your support. The teachers thank you for this. We are ready to go and will therefore start with the new process this year. All schools are moving towards a single system-wide Kindergarten to grade nine report card. The purpose of this letter is to keep you up to date regarding James Short Memorial.

In the October school newsletter, information was provided about reporting processes in the Calgary Board of Education, *Moving Forward Together: Calgary Board of Education Report Card Processes*. Further to that communication, this letter provides specific information about reporting processes at our school and how you can be involved.

In the Calgary Board of Education (CBE), students develop strong foundations in literacy and numeracy as well as important competencies such as critical thinking, problem-solving, global understanding and creativity. Our provincial programs of study are changing and like many other school divisions in Alberta, the CBE is re-designing assessment and reporting practices to reflect these changes.

As we work towards the development of a single, system-wide report card for kindergarten to grade nine, our commitment is to proceed carefully and collaboratively. We have time to think and talk and learn together. Through the development process, the report card will be reviewed and refined through feedback from students, parents and teachers. Principals and their school communities will also be working together to find the best ways to communicate about student learning, on an ongoing basis, outside of the report card itself.

Throughout the 2013-14 school year, each school community will have opportunities to discuss assessment and reporting processes. This year, schools may begin to adapt their current reporting processes in ways that reflect a logical transitional step towards a single, system-wide K-9 report card.

It will be important that we undertake this work together.

In the Calgary Board of Education, each student in kindergarten to grade nine will receive a minimum of two written report cards each school year, which include written comments. At James Short Memorial, report cards will be distributed on January 30 and June 26.

In addition to these report cards, the parents and guardians of all students in kindergarten to grade nine will have a minimum of three opportunities for to meet face to face with teachers to discuss student progress. At James Short Memorial opportunities for face to face meetings are September 19 and 20, December 5 and 6, and March 20 and 21. Parents with students who have IPPs will meet with teachers 4 times a year: a time personally arranged with the teacher around the end of October or early November, December 5 and 6, March 20 and 21, and a final time personally arranged with the teacher

How to get involved:

Please watch for information in our newsletters, website, and in notices and questionnaires sent home. Let us know what you think.

For more information about CBE Report Card processes, please visit:

<http://www.cbe.ab.ca/new/news2013-14/20130920-moving-forward->





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in June.

It is essential that we work together to understand how parents and students can best be informed about student learning. Over the course of this year, we need to talk about some key questions:

- What is most important for you to know about how your child is doing at school?
- Are there ways that teachers have communicated this information to you that you think are particularly effective? Ineffective?
- Do you have other ideas about how we could better communicate?

There are several ways we can work together:

- send a note to the school, send an email to your child's teacher or an administrator, pop by the office, come to a School Advisory meeting, book a meeting, respond to newsletters, keep informed and ask questions.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office at 403-777-8170.

Sincerely,

David Linton

Principal

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