

# Germantown School District

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade:

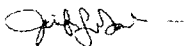
With our use of Skyward, we have transitioned to electronic report cards at the elementary schools in the district. The elementary report cards have provided information regarding student achievement based on the state and district standards and will continue to do so. In addition, the report card provides information regarding where your child is performing based on behavioral expectations for lifelong learners. The grade marks students receive for academic areas versus behaviors are indicated differently for you.

The academic areas (Math, Social Studies, Science, Reading, Language Arts, Art, Music, and Physical Education) are graded based on a 4, 3, 2, or 1 indication of achievement at the time the report cards are shared with parents. These indicators of achievement have not changed for us; however, we are providing a more understandable description of what those indicators truly mean. If you look at the top of the report card, there are descriptors for each of the achievement levels for 4, 3, 2, and 1. Please note, it is fairly rare for students to achieve a 4, as a 4 would indicate the student is performing beyond grade level expectations independently and consistently with no instruction. An achievement level of a 3 is where we strive for our students to perform and indicates mastery of the standards. If you notice, we are also providing information for you based on the traditional A, B, C, D, and F scale. Standards Based Grading in Skyward does not allow for the use of plus (+) and minus (-) with a letter grade, so that is one change you will see both on the report card and within Skyward. Another change is that teacher comments are by subject area at the end rather than one cumulative comment. This change impacts the number of characters that teachers can use, so comments are more brief than in the past.

Germantown believes in teaching our children behaviors that will help them succeed in school and in life. These behaviors are called Behaviors of Lifelong Learners. These behaviors are graded based on an EX, ME, PR, and IN. The descriptors for each of the behavioral expectation levels are listed on the report card as well.

Thank you for continuing to support our schools where we strive to empower and inspire all students to success!

Sincerely,



Jennifer L. Ganske

Director of Teaching and Learning