



BARNEGAT TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

550 BARNEGAT BOULEVARD N.
BARNEGAT, NEW JERSEY 08005
(609) 698-5800 EXT. 5146 FAX: (609) 698-7378

R. James Barbieri

Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Human Resources

Tracee DuBeck

*District Supervisor of
Language Arts/Social Studies 6-12*

Regina Santolla

*District Supervisor of
Elementary Education K-5*

Krystina Smith

*District Supervisor of
Mathematics/Science 6-12*

October, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

During the 2018-2019 school year, the district hosted a series of evening workshops for staff and members of the community. The purpose of these gatherings was to analyze our district practices in the area of assessment and grading. These meetings provided the forum for a lively and meaningful discussion about current challenges and the community's vision for best practices of teaching and learning. At the conclusion of those three nights, the district administration took parent/community/staff feedback and created a roadmap for change going forward.

The overarching goal has been to provide students and their families with feedback about the child's learning that is timely, accurate, and meaningful for informing future decisions by both student and teacher. The district believes that these changes will strengthen our academic programs and provide a platform for boosting student achievement at all levels.

In the upcoming weeks, your child will be receiving their first Marking Period Report Card for the 2019-2020 school year. With that in mind, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the improvements that you will see on your child's elementary report card.

- A major outcome of the District Grading Workshops was the ardent interest of the community to adopt grade ranges aligned with College Board expectations. As such, we are proud to announce that the district has moved to the more commonly used 10-point scale (i.e. A = 100-90), instead of the previous 7-point scale. Under the new model, the failing grade is 64 or below.
- Report cards for students in Grades 2-5 will display numbers for marking period averages in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. These numbers are aligned to letter grades, which are described in the key that is located in the upper middle portion of the report card.
- Report cards also include "can/do statements" that match the current curriculum and New Jersey Student Learning Standards for each content area. Students' progress is reported using a 1-5 scale, which reflects verbiage in the state assessments. This system also provides more effective feedback than the previous check-minus or check-plus notation. Now, for each "can/do statement," students will receive:
 - 5 = Exceeding Expectations
 - 4 = Meeting Expectations
 - 3 = Approaching Expectations
 - 2 = Partially Meeting Expectations
 - 1 = Not Meeting Expectations
- Beginning with the second marking period, Report Cards will contain information about students' current reading level; it will be displayed as Grade.Month (ex. the number 4.6 means 4th grade, 6th month). These scores are based on the STAR Reading program, and teachers



BARNEGAT TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

550 BARNEGAT BOULEVARD N.
BARNEGAT, NEW JERSEY 08005
(609) 698-5800 EXT. 5146 FAX: (609) 698-7378

R. James Barbieri

Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Human Resources

Tracee DuBeck

*District Supervisor of
Language Arts/Social Studies 6-12*

Regina Santolla

*District Supervisor of
Elementary Education K-5*

Krystina Smith

*District Supervisor of
Mathematics/Science 6-12*

will provide more detailed information about the program and the score during the upcoming parent-teacher conferences.

- Elementary Report Cards for students in Grades K-5 will be available online via the Genesis Parent Portal. If for any reason you need a paper copy, please request one from your child's school.

Again, thank you for partnering with us to support your child's learning! Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Curriculum & Instruction. Thank you!

Respectfully,

James Barbieri

R. James Barbieri
Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Human Resources
Barnegat Township School District

cc: Board of Education
Superintendent of Schools
Administration
Elementary K-5 Staff