



Distance Learning Academy News

February 1, 2021

Dear Families,

This weekend sure felt like winter and now the snow has arrived! We hope you enjoyed some time to rest and stayed warm too.

Progress reports will be available to families on **February 10th** via Aspen. Please see the note at the end of the newsletter explaining the district's approach to this important communication tool.

Also, if you have an **incoming kindergarten** student for the fall of 2021, please [click here](#) for more details about registration, NEW Family Information Night and a [kindergarten census form](#).

Please find other information and updates below, and thank you again for your support.

Warmly,

Jen, Jodie, Kristen and Maura

Snow Days:

- During inclement weather, please note that Dr. Fleishman may announce a remote learning day **OR** a traditional snow day.
- This will be clearly articulated on the district website, through a message sent to families and through local media.

Reminder of Expectations for Student Participation, K-5:

- All students are expected to attend the morning meeting and participate in all of the teacher-assigned, synchronous and/or asynchronous learning activities on each school day. This includes specialist subject classes: library, art, music, and PE.
- *Consistent absences from or lack of participation in specialist classes will be reflected in the student's mid year and/or end of year progress report.*

Important Dates:

- **Wednesday, February 10** - Progress Reports are available to Families
- **Monday, 2/15 - Friday, 2/19** - February Vacation
- **Wednesday, 2/24** - Spirit Day! Theme = TBA
- **Thursday, 2/25 7-7:45** - Family Evening on Supporting Students in Math, ELA and Work Habits
- **Wednesday, 3/10** - [Kindergarten Information Night for NEW Families](#) (PW=Kinder)

A Note about Progress Reports:

The February 2021 Progress Report maintains expectations from previous years for each grade level with consistent benchmarks defining “proficiency.” The **progress report measures performance against priority standards** for each grade level. As we assess students’ current performance and plan instruction, our goal is for students to grow in reference to these benchmarks.

Our instructional priority is on safety and well-being, as we believe this is the first step toward helping all students reach academic goals. We recognize that not as many students are reaching these expectations due to the school closure and reduced instructional time.

Ratings: This looks different for each child as they have been impacted in individual ways. If your child receives a “2,” we are monitoring their progress and providing interventions to support their growth. With educators and families across the country, we recognize that the pandemic has had a significant impact on students’ learning, and we anticipate that there will be more “2’s” this year than in previous years.

“N/A” will be used to indicate standards that have either not yet been a focus of instruction or areas where we do not have sufficient data to report for an individual child due to attendance limitations. Our professional team is committed to understanding the gaps that exist in children’s learning and working creatively to help students grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

We are grateful to our families for your partnership with us in supporting your children’s growth during this unusual year. By assisting them with learning at home and providing us with helpful feedback, you have been strong collaborators during this time of crisis.

We intend that this progress report will be a useful tool for the conversations you will have with your child’s teacher as we transition into the second half of this school year. The spring conference season in early April will be another opportunity for families and teachers to communicate about students’ progress. Please reach out to your child’s teacher with concerns or questions.

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