



ÉCOLE GLENMORE SCHOOL

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Dear GME Parents and Guardians;

RE: Year End Summative Reports- What do they mean?

On the last day of school, all students will receive a summative year-end report. They have been called report cards for many years. What does the last report of the year on your child's progress tell us?

As a summative report, it tells us where your child is at in their learning at a specific point in time. This may change quickly or slowly from that specific reporting date, depending on the child. There is no such thing as 'getting ready' for the next grade, or middle school, or high school or university. Your child is where they are on a learning continuum and the learning will continue throughout life. We need to support them where they are at, providing rich learning experiences that stretch them, but not too much. At elementary school, all students move through the system with their similar age cohort and not necessarily their ability cohort. It is common to have five instructional levels in a same age cohort group. The learning is never over, it does not have a clear beginning or ending. The summative report card does. It states an achievement level at a specific point in time for your child.

The change that the Ministry of Education and our school district are working on is ongoing communication of learning by both the student and the teacher with the purpose of improving learning, guiding instruction and encouraging ownership of learning by the student. Our district is working on policy, principles and guidelines to give educators the permission to match the changes in the BC curriculum with the ways that learning progress is communicated both by the student and for the student. It is difficult to 'catch' the dynamic process of learning in a static format.

How we assess students and how they assess themselves is in the process of changing. As we better understand how the brain works and therefore, how we learn, continuing doing what we have always done is no longer valid. Assessment should help students do better, not discourage them. Students should be involved in the assessment of their own learning. Assessment is not something done to a student but done so that a student can identify what is going well and what needs to be worked on.

Teachers have been spending many hours preparing to tell you where your child is at in the learning process, what was done well and what needs improvement. All students have made progress despite it looking like they have the same mark or performance scale indicator all year. All will be proceeding forward next year. All have many outstanding learning experiences to celebrate.

Wendy Briggs
Principal and Learner