May 16, 2011

Dear parents,

Over the past four years, third, fourth, and fifth grade teachers have been implementing standards-based report cards (SBRCs) to report student achievement each quarter. All teachers received training and planning time utilizing two hour late starts. Next school year (2011-12), we will continue to use third, fourth, and fifth grade SBRCs and implement the district’s new kindergarten, first grade, second grade, art, music, physical education, and world language SBRCs. Working with administrators from the Education and Administration Center, teachers developed these new report cards during the 2010-11 school year and received training for full implementation next school year. Although we will no longer be utilizing late starts next school year, teachers will receive additional professional development days (October 7, 2011 and April 20, 2012) to receive training and planning time to support successful SBRCs implementation.

The new report cards are in the same format as the third-fifth grade SBRCs. All teachers utilize district standards and grade level expectations to guide their instruction. The SBRC is a communication tool for parents to keep informed on their children’s progress towards mastery on these standards and grade level expectations. Below are some FAQs that will provide you with more information. Please look for more communication through a parent handbook that all students and parents will receive from teachers at the beginning of the 2011-12 school year.

**Standards-based Report Card FAQs:**

1. **Why is Academy School District 20 using SBRCs?**
   The purpose of the SBRC is to provide more detailed feedback to parents regarding student learning and achievement based on the revised Colorado Academic Standards. The information on the SBRC provides parents and students a better understanding of what the learning expectations are for students at each grade level.

2. **Which schools are currently using SBRCs?**
   Currently, we have eight schools that are using 3rd-5th grade SBRC. They are AEES, AIES, CTES, DCC, FRES, RCES, TdVA, and WRES.

3. **Will all elementary schools eventually use SBRCs?**
   Yes. The district’s current plan for implementation is as follows:
   a. 2011-12: In addition to AEES, AIES, CTES, DCC, FRES, RCES, TdVA, and WRES, FHES, HPES, and PIES will implement K-5 and specials SBRCs.
   b. 2012-13: All remaining elementary schools will implement K-5 and specials SBRCs.

Warmly,

Bobbi Harper