

**Message from Superintendent Dr. Filippelli & Assistant Superintendent Mr. McNamara
on April 30th regarding Grading for 4th Quarter:**

Elementary Schools and Lincoln Middle School

With the closure of schools in March, changes are necessary to the way in which the Lincoln Public Schools' reports pupil progress. Students, teachers and families have had to adapt and change quickly to virtual learning. Topics that were scheduled for instruction in the third trimester (elementary)/fourth quarter (middle) may not have been addressed in the virtual environment. Teachers in grades K-8 worked to establish common expectations to ensure consistency for all students in the same grade/content area. Teachers, in accordance with best practice, are working to address "power standards" i.e. those skills most important to your child's success in the next grade.

When making pupil progress reporting decisions, teachers will use the latest and/or best evidence of a student's achievement. In accordance with guidance from the Rhode Island Department of Education, the Lincoln Public Schools is adopting the following grading scale for grade K-8 for the third trimester.

1. Satisfactory (Pass)
2. Unsatisfactory (Fail): Recommendation to repeat grade/course will be made with appropriate communication to parent/guardian.

Education author and grading expert Thomas Guskey states, "By making student learning our primary focus; helping students take that same focus; ensuring the criteria we establish for passing are clear, rigorous, and attainable; and then doing everything within our power to help ALL students meet those criteria; we may make the best of these difficult and trying times."

For the final grades, teachers will take into account the student's latest and/or best evidence, including the prior trimesters'/quarters' grades and work. Therefore, the final grade/rating is inclusive of all of the work accomplished during the year. Please keep in mind that some standards may not have been addressed on the elementary standards based report card.