

# Understanding the new Grade 5-8 Reports

*Last year (2008-09) some BPSD classrooms piloted a new Grade 5-8 report card. A few changes have been made and a new 5-8 report has been adopted by the BPSD Board of Trustees. This new report will be used for the 2009-10 school year.*

## **Why is the report changing?**

Report cards aim to provide clear, consistent information about each child's progress in relation to curriculum outcomes. The format in which schools communicate student achievement at the Grade 5 – 8 level will now be consistent within the Division. The new student reports separate student academic achievement from personal development as mandated by Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth.

## **What are the changes from the “traditional” report card?**

In the past, an overall mark for a subject may have been included on the report card. This is especially true for Grades 7 – 12. BPSD teachers will no longer include an overall mark for K-8 students. Instead, teachers will report on learning criteria that describe important concepts and skills in specific subjects. In addition, there will be room for comments for each subject area. This should give parents a more accurate description of what their child can do in relation to curriculum outcomes.

## **What codes will be used to report academic achievement?**

Teachers will use a number code of 1-5. A score of “5” means the student is consistently exceeding expectations. A code of “1” means the student is not yet meeting expectations and is experiencing difficulties in class. Sometimes the student may receive a score of “NA”. This is because the skill or outcome was not assessed in that grading period. The code scale will appear on the report card.



## **What does Personal Development mean?**

The province has mandated that student attitude, effort, and work habits be reported separately from academic achievement. The new 5-8 report cards reflect this by including a Personal Development section. Some grade groups at some schools will report this once on a report card, and other grade groups in some schools will report this for every subject a student takes.

## **Which codes are used for Personal Development?**

Teachers will use one of three codes. A “C” means the student is consistently meeting expectations. “W” means the student is still working towards meeting expectations. A code of “N” means the student is not yet meeting expectations.