

Parents,

I wanted to let you know how the SBG (Standards Based Grading) Pilot is going here at school. A letter was sent home a couple of weeks ago explaining that WES has been chosen to pilot Standards Based Grading for the Fort Zumwalt School District. "Pilot" means we will be the first school to transition from traditional grading scales, to a standards based grading system using rubrics. Next school year, 2017/2018, all elementary buildings will have Standards Based Grading for grades K-5. We are lucky enough to get a jump start and begin the transition this school year.

We will be having a PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT on Wednesday, September 7th at 6:30pm. At this meeting, we will explain SBG in more detail and answer questions.

Attached to this message is an example of a rubric that you might see come home with your child. This will help explain how your child is progressing on skills taught in the classroom. Since we are piloting, we are still working out the kinks. If you have been on the portal, you will notice that there aren't grades posted yet. We are waiting to make sure the grade card is working correctly before we start entering the scores.

As I stated before, we grade for many reasons. We grade to determine the student's strengths and weaknesses. We grade to see progress, to check for understanding, and to get feedback to guide/drive our instruction. Standards Based Grading gives our teachers the tools to be more effective in the classroom.

We look forward to seeing you on September 7th at 6:30pm to give you more information and answer your questions. Thank you for your support.

Thank you,

Alicia Hooton
Principal