



National Council on Educating Black Children
Helping Parents Help Children
Make ~
Good Choices

Parent Newsletter

November 2010

Understanding Report Cards

First quarter report cards will be coming home soon.

As the first quarter of the 2010-2011 school year comes to an end, it's important that your child brings home all progress reports and his/her report card for you to review. Once they do what should you look for?

- **Attendance** ~ How many days has your child missed from school? What about late arrivals? Does the report card count match what you know? Talk with your child about the impact of good attendance on grades and teacher comments. If necessary, make a plan to improve attendance.
- **Grading Codes** ~ Letter grades and percentages, should be explained with a "key" that tells you more about the value of the grade given. If not, contact the teacher and ask for more information.
- **Teacher Comments** ~ This is an area where teachers share their thoughts on your child's progress. Read and discuss these comments with your child. Does your child agree with the teacher's statements? Ask your child what he/she thinks about the teacher and the classroom environment. If this area is blank, call the teacher and ask for feedback.
- **Social Skills and Special Class Grades** ~ These grades can be good indicators of your child's personal strengths and interests. Use this information to identify good matches for extra-curricular activities. If your child has indicators of being talkative, find a way to promote the positive in that trait (while reinforcing the proper time and place to be quiet and listen.) Or, if your child gets high marks in music or PE, maybe he/she can join a group or team that will help promote positive interaction and development.

Become a partner in your child's education.

Contact your child's teacher to find how you can work together for your child's best interest.

Giving Thanks



The autumn and winter seasons are marked with many holidays celebrated by different cultures, in different ways.

No matter what (and how) your family celebrates, the idea of giving thanks to those who love and support us throughout the year is amplified during this season. Talk with your child about the value they add to your life. Encourage them to be thankful and show gratitude to others, all year long.

Teach Confidence

Balance interaction with your child. Be honest with them. Promptly address and correct poor conduct with family discussions, and appropriate consequences. Provide clear plans, instructions, and expectations on how to do better next time. Also, be sure to highlight and reward your child with proud recognition of the **good choices** they've made and appropriately celebrate the results.



Learn more ways to help your children make good choices and succeed. Contact NCEBC at (317) 283-9081 to be connected with your Community Action Team or ask about the National Parent University Curriculum Initiative.



The National Council on Educating Black Children supports the Indianapolis Community Crime Prevention Program in partnership with Marion County Health and Hospitals Legacy House and its Reclaiming the Village program