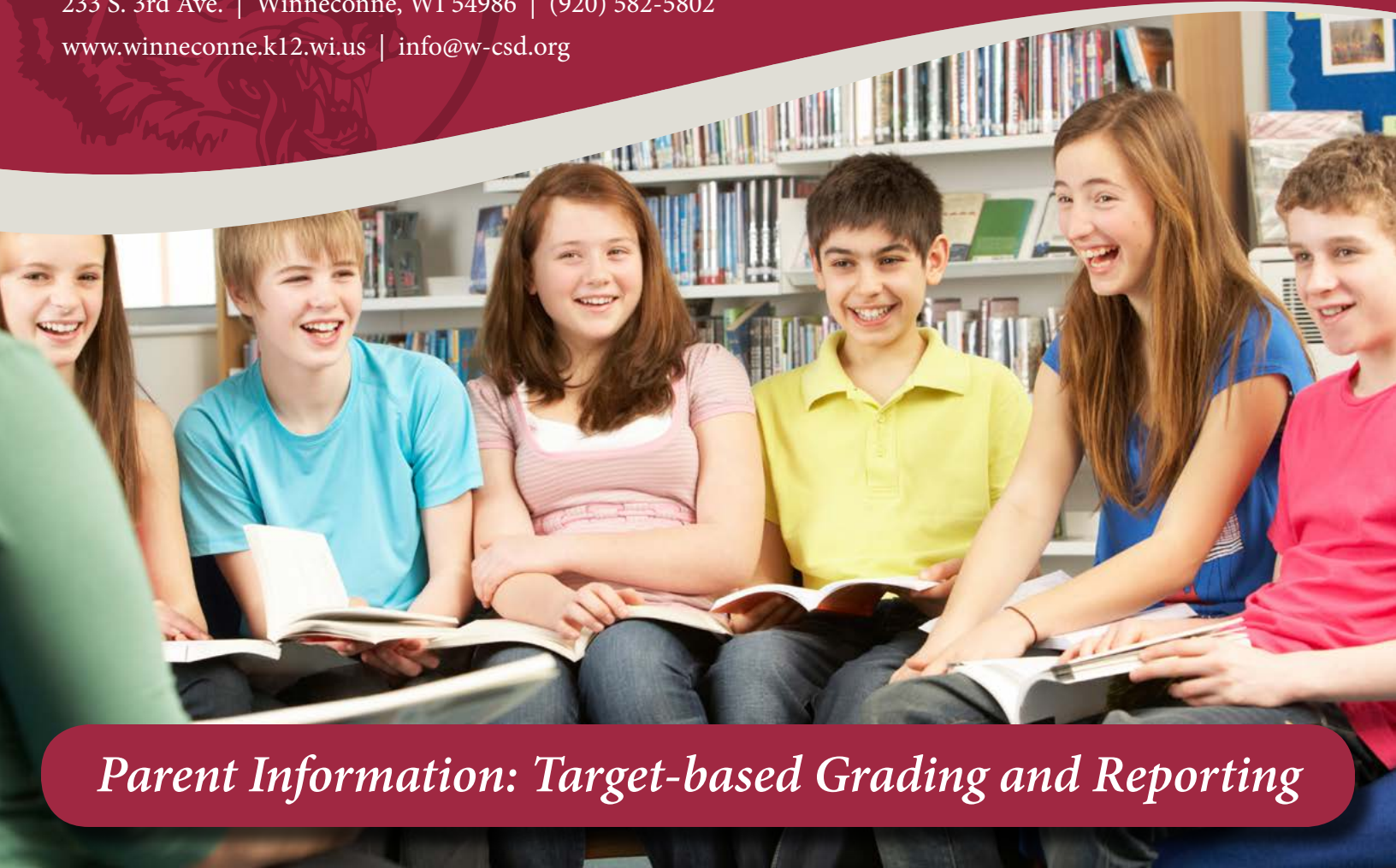


Winneconne Community School District

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Parent Information: Target-based Grading and Reporting

The Winneconne Community School District (WCSD) will implement target-based grading and reporting during the 2017-2018 school year.

Student progress will be measured by academic and behavioral/life skills learning targets.

WCSD believes the purpose of grading is to provide students and parents with a snapshot view of a student's proficiency on academic and behavioral/life skills at a particular time.

The foundational beliefs of this system include:

- Academic grades are dependent upon student proficiency against identified learning targets and are not influenced by non-academic factors.
- Academic grades reflect the student's level of proficiency attained on identified learning targets, as measured by specific assessments aligned to the learning targets.
- Behavioral/life skills grades are also assessed and reported using defined rubrics.
- Students receive a separate grade for current academic scores and behavioral/life skills scores.
- To ensure accuracy in reporting what students know and can do against identified learning targets, extra credit as a way to increase a student's academic grade is not offered.
- Homework is a tool that helps learning, but is not used to determine a student's summative score for academics.

Target-based Grading and Reporting System

The target-based grading and reporting system is a snapshot of each student's proficiency in academic learning targets and behavioral/life skills targets.

Definitions

- **Academic Standards:**
Broad statements of what students should know and be able to do in each content area taught in our schools.
- **Targets:**
Clearly stated goals that students should become proficient in, based on a larger academic standard.
- **Target-based Grading and Reporting:**
A process that indicates how well the student is progressing on each of the targets. The descriptors used to describe student progress are proficient, approaching, or needs support.
- **Behavioral and Life Skills:**
The WCSD believes that life skills and behaviors are critically important in the overall development of our students. Therefore, teachers will report on life skills and behaviors that influence learning. However, life skills and behaviors are reported separately and not as a part of academic proficiency.

In the Winneconne Community School District, we expect our students to **PAW**:

- Practice kindness,
- Always show respect, and
- Work to do their best.

Expectations of these behavioral/life skills targets are clearly and age-appropriately defined by each building, shared with students and parents, and reported as a separate item on the grade report.

Proficiency Criteria

(Specific to each learning target)

- **Proficient (3) – You Got It!**
Student has fully demonstrated content proficiency and skill application of the outcomes for the particular target at this point in the school year.
- **Approaching (2) – Almost Got It!**
Student has demonstrated partial proficiency of the expected content/skills in the assessment. Partial development indicates a progress with gaps in understanding or perhaps certain misconceptions.
- **Need Support (1) – Not Quite Yet!**
Student has demonstrated little or no evidence of content proficiency of outcomes. The student has large gaps in understanding and/or application and is able to show success only with significant adult assistance.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the Key Principles of Target-based Grading?

- Deemphasizing grading formative practice as a part of an academic grade (homework, quizzes).
- Allowing for reassessment to occur on summative assessments.
- Removing non-academic factors from an academic grade and reporting life skills/behaviors separately on report cards and transcripts.
- Using student proficiency against specific learning targets to determine students' academic grades.

What's NOT Changing in 2017-2018?

- Letter grades.
- Grade point average.
- The use of Skyward as our reporting tool.

What IS Changing in 2017-2018?

- How a letter grade is determined (based on proficiency against targets).
- How assessments (tests) are designed in our classes to be target specific. Assessments will measure targets. Scores are therefore entered in Skyward for each individual target, rather than an overall score for each assessment.
- How we report behaviors and life skills separate from academic grades.

Additional Information

Reporting in 2017-2018

Both Winneconne Middle School and Winneconne High School will utilize the existing reporting feature via *Skyward*. Winneconne Elementary School will report academic and behavioral proficiencies via the *Mastery Connect* application.

Parent Meetings

September 12, 2017, 5:30 p.m.
September 12, 2017, 7:00 p.m. (Grades 7-12)

Both meetings will be held at the Middle School.

Informational Video

To view a detailed video on target-based grading and reporting in the Winneconne Community School District, visit the District website: www.winneconne.k12.wi.us and click on the link for target-based grading and reporting.

Questions? Please contact:

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