



The French American Academy

A World of Possibilities, Beyond Words

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HER/HIS GRADES



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THE FAA REPORT CARDS ARE :

- Standard-based, from Pre-K through Middle School
- Using a grading scale 1 to 4, in line with the French programs and the usage in the United States.



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4

- **Exceeding Standards:** student performance demonstrates an understanding of the knowledge and skills beyond expectations and consistently shows evidence of a higher level of thinking

3

- **Meeting Standards:** student performance demonstrates a thorough understanding of the knowledge and skills expected at this grade level.

2

- **Approaching Standards:** student performance demonstrates a partial understanding of the knowledge and skills expected at this grade level

1

- **Acquiring Standards:** student is beginning to demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge and skills expected at this grade level

X

- **Not Applicable at this time**



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In Middle School

French Grades	USA Grades	Letter Grades
19-20	98-100	A+
17-18.99	94-97	A
16 à 16.99	90-93	A-
15-15.99 14.5 à 14.99 14 à 14.49	89-87 86-83 80-82	B+ B B-
13-13.99 12.5 à 12.99 12 à 12.49	79-77 76-73 72-70	C+ C C-
11-11.99 10.5 à 10.99 10 à 10.49	69-67 66-63 62-60	D+ D D-
<10	< 59	F



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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HER/HIS GRADES?



Buzzle.com

Tolerant
Trustworthy
Selfless
Vital
Warm

Polite
Patient
Inspiring
Tolerant





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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HER/HIS GRADES?

The grades are only a snapshot of your child's performance at a given time.

Grades are not measuring perseverance, creativity, curiosity, empathy, kindness, or honesty which are major characteristics, as well as leadership or entrepreneurship. First, think about what adult you want your child to become!

The "Comments" section of the report card will give you more insight on your child as a learner, his strengths and his goals.



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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HIS/HER GRADES?



**KEEP
CALM
AND
DEEP
BREATH**



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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HIS/HER GRADES?

Take three deep breaths or turn seven times your tongue in your mouth before you say anything in response to a report card. Words are powerful. Some remarks can hurt more than you know.

To prepare your words, read the report card without your child and then share your comments with him or her. One goal: stay positive!

You cannot change the grades. They are what they are. What matters is the next step. Seeking a solution infuses the discussion with positive energy and helps you concentrate on moving things forward. Let's fix the problem rather than assign blame.



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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HER/HIS GRADES?

IT'S A QUESTION PARTY!



MY FAVORITE!



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Before making any comments, **ask questions:**

How do you feel about these grades? What happened? Were there any surprises on this report card for you? What are you most proud of? Are there any disappointments here for you? What is one goal you have for next time? What could you do differently next semester?

In your comments, avoid evaluative words like "good job," "excellent," "superb," "lousy," "pitiful," and "poor" which are not helpful. It does not give the child useful information. Describe what you see and leave the evaluation for the child.



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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HER/HIS GRADES?

Don't mix up love and grades

"I love you and I don't like this report card" helps the child see that it is the results you don't enjoy, not the person. Help your children see that they are not their report card. Likewise, stay away from comments such as, "I love you so much when you bring home a report card like this." This style of communication obviously tells the child that your love is linked to high grades, so if the grades go down so will your love.



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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT HER/HIS GRADES?

Have
Only
Positive
Expectations

QUOTEDIARY.NE



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Communicate positive expectations. One of the best things you can do for your children is to expect their success and communicate that to them. You want your child to do better. You want to help your child recognize that he/she can improve or push themselves in the future