

Inside Report Card

News Of Cleveland County Schools

1982-83
Year of the
Public
Schools



NORTH CAROLINA



Focus On The Report

"A single letter grade is somewhat like telling about a tiger by examining one of its pawprints. It oversimplifies and undertells the story."

— Dr. Jerry Blake, County Superintendent

"I can't do it next week. My report card will be out by then," an over-sized eighth grader was heard to say. He raised the point of report cards. Since report cards are just out (November 2), I decided to focus on them this week.

The common concept of report cards is as old as schools-- A's, B's, and C's or worse, given as indicators of progress on grade-level work. When I came along, everybody believed in the report card.

Not long after I became a teacher, I discovered that my belief in the report card as a simple, accurate way to tell parents how Johnny was progressing was a misplaced faith.

Representing a child's progress in school work with a single letter grade is somewhat like telling about a tiger by examining one of its pawprints. It oversimplifies and undertells the story.

Every day pupils work on and learn new skills and concepts. Some learn fast; some, not so fast. Learning adds to differences among pupils.

Since pupils come to school with age differences as great as from October to September and learning differences as great as two years of school work, a report card with A's or D's will not give the precise story.

Significantly, the school is designed to help pupils grow and learn, to become different from what they were when they first came with Mom or Dad for kindergarten.

Schools make reporting harder by adding to each child's differences from his friends. So A's etcetera tell even less of the story.

The best national evidence from standardized tests reveals that at any grade level, even for closely grouped classes, pupil learning ranges as many years as the number of the grade level.

In the third grade, pupils will be different by as much as three years--from the middle of first grade to the middle of the fourth grade.

In seventh grade, the range will be from middle of third grade to the middle of tenth grade in the basic skills of reading and math. Such great differences are hard to pinpoint with A, B, C, D, and E.

More important than where a youngster is working in basic skills is what skills he does have and what skills he lacks. Teachers, principals and other instructional supervisors have long sought a more accurate and useful way to report to parents.

Cleveland County Schools have put their efforts into developing a reporting system that has these carefully considered goals:

1. To report to parents in such a way that they can believe in the report
 2. To report so that parents can tell where their youngster is working--on grade level, below grade level or above grade level
 3. To report to parents what skills we are trying to teach, what skills of these taught have been learned, and what skills must still be learned
- We believe we come closer to achieving all three goals each new school year.

This week report cards for pupils in grades 1-6 include a list of what skills we have tried to teach. A score by each skill shows whether or not the pupil has mastered that reporting goal. Each parent can tell what skills his child needs to work on.

At times other than the end of report periods, pupils are tested, and results are made available to the teacher and parent. This report on skills tried and not learned can be valuable if parents use it to help him relate his assignments to the skills list and to help him understand that the skill he is working on is required for advancing to the next level.

Nothing could be more important than the parents' helping. Because pupils love and admire parents, the mom or dad who spends some time helping shows that one of the most important people in the child's world thinks learning is important. No better model can exist for a child.

Finally, our research shows that learning is closely related to the time a pupil spends on his work. While we try to give individual attention, we cannot hope to give what the parent can give with just thirty minutes to help on one of the skills the pupil needs.

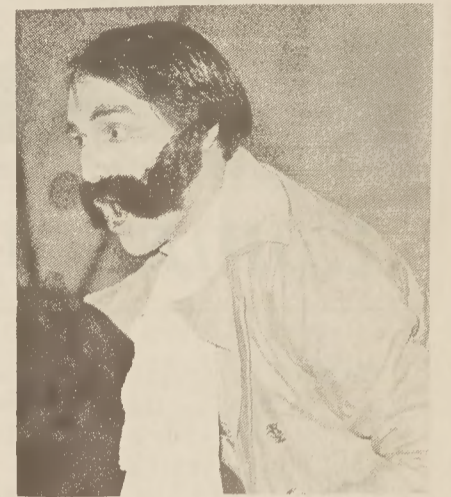
Even if the teacher had nothing to do but work with pupils one-on-one, he could not give fifteen minutes. Parental supervision of the work assigned at school can make the difference between a happy, successful child and an unhappy, frustrated one who learns to dislike school.

Considerable thought has gone into the design of the skills reporting system. An even greater benefit can be derived from it if parents use it to help keep the youngster working on task.

They're Not Singing That Same Old Song



Members of the Opera Can Be Fun troupe are pictured with the ten pre-selected students, chosen by the school to participate on the basis of their musical aptitude and potential.



In the longest singing commercial in history, Dr. Dulcamara (Timothy Braden), a quack physician, tells of the wonders of his magical potions and loctions. This is from The Elixir of Love, a comedy by Donizette. Students at South Cleveland were selected to act as villagers and to sing along with the troupe.

Opera Can Be Fun, an educational program sponsored by the A.J. Fletcher Educational and Opera Foundation and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Division of Arts Education was presented to students at South Cleveland Elementary and West Cleveland Elementary last week.

Excerpts from "The King and I", "The Merry Wives of Windsor", "The Consul", "Martha", and "The Elixir of Love", were performed before the entire student body.

The demonstration combined singers of the

Board With Smoking

The 1982 Great smoke, why people American Smoke-Out should quit smoking, or Billboard contest had any idea that supports been won by Pam the Great American Spangler, a 9th grade student at Burns Junior High School.

Entries were judged on appearance, and shown before the creativity, and best Great American Smoke-illustration on why people should not after the 18th

Thank You For Voting BROYHILL



"Tuesday we Americans once again had the opportunity to go to the ballot box. The freedom to select our local, state, and federal officials is one we should take seriously. I appreciate your vote and thank you for your continued support."

Jim Broyhill

Paid for by Jim Broyhill Congressional Club Brent Kincaid, Chairman

THE COMEDY FAVORITE OF THE YEAR!

"SIDE-SPLITTINGLY FUNNY!"
- Rex Reed, SYNDICATED FILM CRITIC

"FULL OF SNAP AND WIT!"
- David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

"ONE HELL OF A CAST..."
- Archer Winsten, NEW YORK POST

"A COMEDY WITH STYLE AND PEP..."
- Gene Shalit, TODAY SHOW, NBC-TV

"PETER O'TOOLE IS SIMPLY ASTOUNDING..."
- Pauline Kael, NEW YORKER MAGAZINE

My Favorite Year

PG MCM/UA

\$1 Any Show With This Coupon!
Shows Fri-Sat 3,5 Sun 7,9



The Victorian Rose

CONSIGNMENT SALES

Moving? Have an estate to sell?

We will sell one piece or a house full. We will price, advertise, and sell any household goods except clothing or appliances.

Call: 487-1031 Mon-Sat 10-5
482-3621 Nights
482-4355 Nights

Sarah Wray And Noni Sherer

Located In Shelby,

\$2 OFF

Any Single Large Or Medium Pizza

Hours 5 to 11

434-2391

MOVIE HOUSE RESTAURANT
Boiling Springs

FLICK 1 & 2

318 S. WASHINGTON
PHONE 487-8066

JEKYLL & HYDE
...together again

The comedy that examines modern living through chemistry

Shows 7 and 9 Late Show Fri-Sat 11 pm

Coupons Mutts Coupons

Mutt's
Chicken 'n Biscuits
Open 24 Hours

COUPON
NEW - NEW - NEW
Mutt's
Buy one delicious hotdog and get the second dog at half price.
Expires 12-15-82 FV

COUPON
MUTT'S COUPON
Buy one order of our new Mutt's Tater Rounds and get another order for half price.
Expires 12-15-82 FV

COUPON
OPEN 24 HOURS
Mutt's
Buy one delicious hamburger and get the second hamburger at half price.
Expires 12-15-82 FV