

Got the Report Card Blues?

Don't stress! Oxford Learning is here to help.



Here are some helpful tips to keep in mind while reading your child's report card from **Grade 9 through Grade 12:**

- In high school, each test, project, pop quiz, homework assignment, (and even classroom participation) counts toward the outcome on the final report card.
- Other factors such as missed classes and lateness may also have an impact on grades.
- High school report cards can indicate a course median, which will show how your child is performing in comparison to the rest of the class.
- Study habits and organizational skills are very important to performance and grade outcomes.
- Students' grades can often be a reflection of their personal and academic goals. Failure to set goals can have an impact on school motivation.
- Students need to consider the long-term outcomes of what their grades mean to them based on their future goals.
- The pressure is on. Students are moving quickly on the fast track towards higher education, and every grade counts. High school report cards are about outcomes—in these years, final grades matter.
- Students should seek extra help as soon as they realize that they need additional support, whether in a particular subject, or in study or homework skills.
- Summer is a great opportunity to work on trouble areas. A few hours a week can go a long way to fill in skill gaps, and catch up in trouble areas.

After reviewing the report card, do these things:

- Have a report card discussion with your teen.
- Be cool, calm, and collected. Start with positive comments, and then identify areas of concern.
- Write out personal and academic goals. Goals should be clear, achievable, and measurable.
- Make a plan to work on problem areas as soon as possible.
- Contact your local Oxford Learning for more report card tips.

See also: Growing Success: Assessment, Reporting and Evaluation in Ontario Schools, 2010

