

NELSON WHYNDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

We Learn and Live the Nguzo Saba

OUR SCHOOL VISION

At Nelson Whynder Elementary School, we work together to make our school a safe, kind, and welcoming space for everyone. We believe every student has a voice and can make choices to help them learn and grow. We strive for academic excellence by working hard, believing in ourselves (Kujichagulia), and showing unity and care for one another (Umoja). We celebrate what makes each of us unique—our stories, strengths, and who we are. With Ujima and Ujamaa, we take care of our community, share responsibilities, and lift each other up. We use our creativity (Kuumba) to solve problems, set goals with purpose (Nia), and believe in ourselves, our families, and our future (Imani). Together, we grow, achieve, and keep learning for life.

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING: BIG IDEAS

Assessment is an ongoing part of teaching and learning and should be fair, inclusive, equitable, purposeful, and connected to expected learning outcomes. Students are provided with multiple opportunities and different ways to demonstrate their learning through conversations, observations, and student work. Teachers provide timely feedback, monitor progress, and use a sufficient body of evidence and professional judgment to determine achievement and next steps for instruction. Work habits, social skills, and behaviours are reported separately in the Learner Profile and do not affect academic grades. Regular attendance and ongoing communication among students, families, and teachers are important in supporting student learning, progress, achievement, and well-being.

[Nova Scotia Student Assessment Policy](#)

REPORT CARDS AND PROGRESS CONFERENCES

In elementary school, report cards are sent home three times a year. The learner profile will have information about your student's work habits, social skills and attendance. The remaining sections will provide a grade and comment from the teacher on the student's learning in their classroom subjects. The comments will explain the ways the student is succeeding, any areas for improvement and suggestions for continued learning at home and/or at school. Parents/guardians/caregivers will have an opportunity to discuss their child's progress with the classroom teacher(s) during scheduled progress conferences.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Report cards go home November 23–30, 2026	Report cards go home March 15–25	Report cards go home on Wednesday, June 30, 2027
Progress Conferences Friday, December 4, 2026	Progress Conferences Friday, April 2, 2027	

UNDERSTANDING REPORTING CODES AND GRADING SCALES

When you receive your child's report card, you may see different grading scales depending on the subject, the term, or the grade level. The following codes are used to describe student achievement.

Grades Primary–3	Grades 4–6
Students do not receive traditional letter or percentage grades. Instead, they are evaluated on a 4-tier scale: WD – Well developed DE – Developing as Expected ND – Needs Development INS – Insufficient Evidence (Note: Primary report cards rely strictly on qualitative comments and the learner profile.)	Students transition to a generic 4-point scale representing their relationship to grade-level standards: 4 – Exceeds expectations 3 – Meets expected grade-level standards 2 – Approaching expectations; needs support 1 – Needs improvement; struggling significantly Provincial assessments are also administered in literacy and math outcomes at specific grade levels (like grades 3, 6, and 8). These

	provincial results provide system-wide data and do not directly factor into a student's final individual classroom grade.
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USEFUL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

HRCE Calendar 2026–2027 Find important dates, holidays, and PD days.	Homework Hub The Homework Hub provides free online math support for students in Grades 4–12. Students can access tutoring and learning resources using their GNSPES account.
HRCE Concern Process for Families If you have a question or concern about your child's learning or school experience, begin by contacting your child's teacher. If the concern is not resolved, contact the principal. You can also connect with HRCE Parent Navigators for support.	Nelson Whynder Elementary Website Visit our school website for news, updates, and resources.

Together We Make a Difference