



## Ira W. Travell Elementary

340 Bogert Avenue  
Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

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Dr. Margaret Leininger

Principal

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February 7, 2017

Dear Parents,

Report cards are accessible through Skyward today, reporting progress in the first semester for students in Kindergarten. (Directions for accessing the report card are included at the end of this letter.) All six elementary schools in Ridgewood use the same standards-based report card, which means that it is based on a combination of our district's curriculum expectations and the Common Core Standards. Students are graded against a standard, not each other.

The kindergarten report card places an emphasis on learning behaviors as opposed to grades. In the area of language arts you'll notice that your child's progress is presented as a continuum. The "+" symbol indicates that your child has mastered that skill. The first empty box on the continuum indicates the level of instruction for your child at this time. Beginning in first grade, the report card indicates achievement toward a grade level standard on a scale of 1-4 in all academic areas.

Elementary school is an impressionable time in a child's life. We are interested in challenging children to develop and practice excellent work and study habits that will serve them for the rest of their lives. We strive to help each child reach his/her potential. We'd like children to know the satisfaction of working hard and doing their best, as opposed to looking for a grade. We are confident that a standards-based report card allows for our philosophy while also giving you a realistic view of how your child is performing throughout each school year.

The report card is just one component of our grade reporting system. Teachers communicate with parents in many other ways (e.g. phone calls, email, conferences, homework, etc.) Should you have any questions about your child's report card, of course you may contact your child's teacher.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and your child's learning.

Sincerely,

Margy Leininger  
Principal

## **Directions for accessing your child's report card on Skyward**

The instructions for accessing the report cards in Family Access are slightly different from last year.

Report cards for children in Kindergarten will be available for you to view through the **Skyward Family Access** portal beginning **today at 4:00pm**.

To access the portal, go to the District website.

1. Login to Skyward Family Access. The link can be found on the District Website under Parents.
2. Once you are logged in\*, select the Portfolio tab on the left side of the screen.
3. Links to Report Cards in PDF format (Adobe Acrobat Reader recommended) are now displayed for all children in your family on one screen.
4. Report cards can be viewed online or printed.
5. If you are unsure of your username or password, you can retrieve it by clicking on Forgot your Login/Password.