

NORWOOD SCHOOL
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Diana Garnatz
Superintendent

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(Sample Letter distributed twice during November & December)

Dear Parents & Guardians:

The Oklahoma State Department of Education will be releasing school district report cards in the near future. Norwood School is dedicated to providing the best possible education to your child and the children of our community. We are acutely aware of our student achievement scores. We are working diligently to improve these scores.

As a parent of a Norwood student, you have been inside our schools. You are aware how hard we work to provide quality opportunities to each child in our community.

- We provide before & after school programs for working parents.
- We provide before & after school tutoring and homework help programs.
- We provide opportunities for students to develop skills in various programs. (Robotics, SWAT, Arts & Crafts, Ham Radio, Academic Teams, 4-H, Clover buds, Science Club, and athletics.)
- We provide a family-like atmosphere where we know each child personally and have smaller class sizes with teacher assistants to help student achievement.
- We provide Highly Qualified Teachers who are dedicated to helping your child succeed.

One observation I would like to make regarding the report card and how it compares to your child's report card brought home each quarter.

<u>Child's Report Card</u>	<u>School District Report Card</u>
Your child's grade is based on daily work, quizzes, tests, and assignments given over a period of time. Each and every classroom activity is averaged to come up with your child's quarterly grade.	The school's report card is based on one 60-90 minute period of time that a child performs on a state mandated test. The tests were given in Reading and Mathematics in grades 3 - 8. Grades 5, 7, & 8 also took tests in Writing and Science. In total 360 minutes of testing goes into the schools grade. That equals to Norwood's grade being based on only one day of instruction.

Norwood has a long-term strategy in place to help all students. We are focusing on a district-wide reading program to ensure that students reading below grade level are provided with intensive reading interventions. Students are given extra periods of time in the library to read non-fiction books and learn strategies needed for this type of content reading. We are also using a sound research based program to ensure that each student receives additional instruction in mathematics.

