



## Statement – Report Cards

January 24, 2020

Ontario's public school boards have announced that first term report cards will not be available for elementary students, and that secondary students will receive reports with marks only. Boards have made a very difficult decision, given the circumstances. It is challenging to decide what can and cannot continue during ongoing job action.

Although teachers have submitted marks with the intent that they will be entered into each student's report card by the school administration, the sheer volume of work needed to enter marks for every student on behalf of every teacher is impossible for administrators to accomplish in order to distribute report cards at this time. Preparing report cards for individual students cannot be done solely by one to three administrators in a school. In December, 2019, we warned the Minister of Education about the potential for this impact on reporting, but no additional resources or alternative plans were provided.

We know that parents may be disappointed with the absence of a report card this term. However, providing marks without comments and context does not provide fulsome feedback on student achievement of curriculum expectations. Parents have been informed that if they have questions about their child's progress, they can contact their child's teacher for an update. Teachers and parents will have been in contact throughout the year and many parents are already well informed about their child's progress; it is not our intention for teachers to be inundated with requests.

During job action, it is not business as usual in schools. We are hopeful that the unions and the government/school boards will return to the bargaining table quickly to reach an agreement, in the best interests of our students.