

# Middle School Reporting: Communicating Student Learning



The purpose of this document is to support teachers in writing term overall comments.

## Term Overall Comments:

- Schools and/or grade levels elect to have a term overall comment section on their reports.
- If the term overall comments are being used, it will be the first comment section on the report.
- The purpose of the term overall comment is to provide an introduction or soft-landing to the report.

## Term Overall Comments *COULD* Include:

1. an introductory statement about the student and how they have progressed or contribute to the classroom
  2. individual successes, achievements, or highlights from the term
  3. general statements about learning behaviours that are consistent across subject areas. HOWEVER, learning behaviours also need to be reported on by subject. Just as we report on achievement for each subject, we report on how learning behaviours impact achievement (positively or negatively).
  4. general statements about learning needs
- \* Remember, for students with IEPs, include a comment about effective strategies and adaptations when they are being used **by subject**.*

## Top Tips

- Maintain a positive tone.
- Use language that parents/guardians will understand; avoid teacher jargon.

The following examples can be used as a guide when writing term overall comments:

**Term Overall Comment** (Note this student *does* have an IEP. In subject area comments specific strategies and adaptations will be shared)

STUDENT has had a strong transition to middle school. HIS/HER willingness to participate in class discussions is appreciated. HIS/HER questions and comments contribute to lessons and discussions and help other students engage. HE/SHE works hard and is becoming more willing to ask for help when HE/SHE needs it. STUDENT is making progress on HIS/HER IEP goals and is becoming more independent, especially in Math.

**Term Overall Comment** (Note this student *does not* have an IEP. The comment documents learning needs and strategies being used across subject areas)

STUDENT is working hard to settle into the routines and expectations of grade seven. HE/SHE has a positive energy that sets a good tone in our classroom. STUDENT struggles to maintain focus on classroom tasks, and it is very difficult for HIM/HER to get back on track when HE/SHE gets distracted. One strategy that has worked well has been chunking longer assignments into smaller parts. We will continue to use this strategy to help STUDENT meet HIS/HER goals.

## Term Overall Comment

STUDENT has made good progress this term, in both skills and confidence. HE/SHE is taking on more responsibility for HIS/HER own learning and is more willing to take the time to do HIS/HER best work. HE/SHE is a creative thinker and very capable learner when HE/SHE chooses to. I encourage HIM/HER to continue to push HIMSELF/HERSELF just a little more. With continued effort, HE/SHE will accomplish HIS/HER goals.

## Term Overall Comment

STUDENT has had a strong start to the school year. HE/SHE has joined the basketball team and is making good peer connections. Sometimes STUDENT will rush to complete HIS/HER assignments. This has had some impact on academic progress. Will will continue to encourage HIM/HER to take the time to engage with learning activities at a deeper level.

