



## OVERVIEW OF SPECIALTY CLASS GRADES

P.E./HEALTH, ART, SPANISH, & COMPUTERS

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Specialist teachers evaluate students in two different categories during each trimester. Students are graded on their participation as well as their ability to apply developmentally appropriate skills. Each category has four grade possibilities:

4 = Above Grade Level

3 = At Grade Level

2 = Approaching Grade Level

1 = Below Grade Level

Skills grades are representative of how well students are doing with the benchmarks for each student's particular grade level.

The term “approaching” and a grade of a “2” is meant to inform students and parents that the student is on track with his/her development in specialty classes. In specialty areas, students are often assessed for their achievement of year-long benchmarks or standards, not benchmarks or standards that are taught for just one trimester. Oftentimes the course content and learning is such that it is unrealistic to expect a student to receive a “4”—above grade level— or “3”—at grade level—in the first 12 weeks of school.

Since each child approaches a skill with a different level of experience, when you see a “2” in the skills section on the report card for a student in skills, this is not cause for alarm. You will want to look for your child's grades to show progress and growth throughout the year.