

What are the goals for grading, reporting and PowerTeacher Pro?

The ultimate use of grading and reporting data is to inform educators, parents, and, as age-appropriate, students on student needs, with the intention to make students better learners. Our goal for grading and reporting is to increase communication about student progress with parents and students, as well as to be more transparent about what a student knows, understands, and is able to do towards academic content and transferable skills (AKA: Cross Curricular Proficiencies; AKA LR Learning Expectations). The emphasis is on equity. Furthermore, if we are able to increase communication, the reporting process will be more fluid and dynamic compared to the antiquated system of progress reports and report cards. It will help teachers align planning, grading/reporting, and curriculum so that the work of the teacher can be more streamlined. Lastly, our intention is for students to take more ownership of their learning.

Why did OCSU move to PowerTeacher Pro?

PowerTeacher Pro allows us to more accurately report out on student learning towards OCSU proficiencies and LR Proficiencies. The basic version of PS gradebook created too many issues with reporting out on proficiencies. It's like updating your iPhone to the latest version of the iOS. Furthermore, our intention was to establish our reporting tool before people went off in their own direction.

What will the K-8 Standards-based Report Card look like?

Report cards will report out on the content area proficiencies, cross curricular proficiencies, and the indicators that were assessed using the 1-4 scale.

Who do I assess the indicators that OCSU has established for meeting proficiency?

Indicators should be broken down into learning targets. By doing this, teachers determine exactly what students need to know, understand, and do to meet the proficiency. Classroom assessments are geared towards the learning targets, which inform whether or not a student has met all the learning targets to show proficiency towards the indicator.

How often should I be entering grades into PowerTeacher Gradebook?

That is a decision that should be made at the building level. However, the gradebook in PT Pro functions like any other hard copy or digital gradebook and allows you to organize your reporting practices in the way you see fit. Ideally, it is recommended to enter grades bi-weekly to track student growth. There are controls that you can set so that only you can see what the grades are until you are ready to report.

What are the expectations for using PowerTeacher Pro?

K-12 teachers should be using the gradebook to report on student progress towards academic proficiencies and habits of work. Reporting of proficiencies and habits of work should be reported separately. Teachers should be utilizing the comment feature to provide additional information about student progress. K-8 teachers will use a 1-4 scale for reporting purposes. LR currently uses a blend for reporting purposes.

What do the current codes in the standards tab for K-8 of PowerTeacher Pro represent?

The codes can be read as follows:

- OGP = OCSU Graduation Proficiencies
- The first number distinguishes the subject areas (e.g. OGP.1 = ELA, OGP.2 = Math, etc)
- The second number distinguishes the proficiencies (e.g. OGP.1.1 = Using Language, OGP.1.2 = Speaking & Listening, etc)
- The third number indicates the grade level (0 = Kindergarten, 1 = first grade, etc) In most cases a teacher will only see indicators for the grade level they are teaching, the exception is classes with mixed grade levels. A K-2 math class, for example, will have indicators for grades K-2.
- The letters distinguish the indicators.

*Please note that the indicators in PRO get cut off due to a character limit. Indicators are from CCSS, NGSS, & the VT Sample Proficiencies. When our OCSU indicators are finalized in May we will make the change in PT Pro for the upcoming school year.