

District Families:

Now that we have reached the end of the first marking period and parent-teacher conferences for grades K-8 start this evening, we wanted to share some information related to our graduate profile - a collection of characteristics identified to be important for success in life after high school. At Ephrata, we are calling this the *EASD Life Ready Graduate (LRG)*.

The *EASD Life Ready Graduate* profile contains several characteristics that are important to the future success of each student that go beyond what is measured on high stakes, standardized tests. The LRG profile reflects an emphasis on producing graduates who have acquired important content knowledge in additional areas beyond what is tested by the state. We also aim to prepare students to be able to apply the 4Cs (Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration and Creativity) and demonstrate the dispositions and character traits valued by our community.

Last November, our School Board passed a resolution that outlines the need to “aim higher than standardized test measures” and formalized our District emphasis to prepare our students for success in life, not to just score proficient on a state test. At that time, we produced a [VIDEO](#) that has been available on the *Life Ready Graduate* page of our District website to help communicate why the profile was created and share real-world perspectives from District and community leaders. Also on the website is a series of archived presentations and resources that provide additional details about the creation of the profile, the high school certification program, and other information supporting the need to aim for higher targets.

Lastly, as we continue to make progress toward our goal of preparing every student for success in life, we ask that you continue to support your child’s education by partnering with his or her teachers and school. Adjusting how we engage and inspire our students toward their future requires the use of new instructional strategies, collaborative project work, modern technology, and authentic connections to the real world. As a District, we recognize that learning requires taking risks and reflecting on results, both positive and negative. This is true for students who are being asked to apply content in new and authentic ways, as well as for teachers who are trying new instructional strategies to further engage each student.

It is our hope that you are proud to send your child to a school district that values him or her for much more than a test score. As a District, we are proud to serve a community that supports our work to help each student realize his or her full potential and build a foundation for success in life.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Troop, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Ephrata Area School District

"Achieving Success One Student at a Time"

District Families:

Now that we have reached the end of the first marking period and parent-teacher conferences for grades K-8 are later this week, we wanted to share some information related to our graduate profile—a description or collection of characteristics identified to be important for success in life after high school. As you are likely aware, the Ephrata Area School District has established a graduate profile called the *EASD Life Ready Graduate (LRG)*.

The *EASD Life Ready Graduate* profile contains several characteristics that are important to the future success of each student, despite the prevailing culture of high stakes, standardized assessments in public education. The LRG profile reflects an emphasis on producing graduates who have acquired important content knowledge in areas beyond what is tested by the state. We also aim to prepare students who can apply the 4Cs (Communication, Critical Thinking, Collaboration and Creativity) and demonstrate the dispositions and character traits valued by our community.

Last November, our School Board passed a resolution that outlines the need to “aim higher than standardized test measures” and formalized our District emphasis to prepare our students for success in life, not just to score proficient on a state test. At that time, we produced a [VIDEO](#) that has been available on the *Life Ready Graduate* page of our District website to help communicate why the profile was created and share real-world perspectives from District and community leaders. Also on the website is a series of archived presentations and resources that provide additional details about the creation of the profile, the high school certification program, and more rationale supporting the need to aim for higher targets.

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District Families:

Now that we have reached the end of the first marking period and parent-teacher conferences for grades K-8 are approaching, we wanted to share some information related to our graduate profile.

As you are likely aware, the Ephrata Area School District has established a graduate profile called the *EASD Life Ready Graduate*. A graduate profile is a collection of the items identified to be important for success in life after high school. Our profile reflects an emphasis on producing graduates who have acquired the knowledge, applied the skills, and demonstrated the dispositions that will enable them to be successful in reaching their goals in school and in life. It has long been the District mission to provide the types of programs and learning environments students need to reach their full potential, knowing that the culture of high-stakes assessments still dominates most school districts. The *EASD Life Ready Graduate* profile contains features well beyond what can be measured on a test.

Last November, our School Board approved a resolution that outlines the need to “aim higher than standardized test measures” and formalized our District emphasis to prepare our students for success in life, not just proficient on a state test. At that time, we produced a video that has been available on our District website – [OR HERE](#) – to help communicate why the *Life Ready Graduate* profile was created and share real-world perspectives from District and community leaders. Also on the website is a series of archived presentations and resources that provide additional details about the creation of the profile, the high school certification program, and more rationale supporting the need to aim for higher targets.

Lastly, as we continue to make progress toward our goal of preparing every student for success in life, we ask that you continue to support your child’s education by partnering with his or her teachers and school. Adjusting how we engage and inspire our students toward their future requires the use of new instructional strategies, collaborative project work, modern technology, and authentic connections to the real world. As a District, we recognize that learning requires taking risks and reflecting on results, both positive and negative. This is true for students who are being asked to apply content in new and authentic ways and teachers who are trying new instructional strategies to further engage each student.

It is our hope that you are proud to send your child to a school district that values much more than standardized test scores. As a District, we are proud to serve a community that supports our work to help each student realize his or her full potential and build a foundation for success in life.