This scoring guide represents academic expectations for year end. Reporting each trimester reflects student progress toward the end-of-year standards.

### Scoring Key for Behaviors that Promote Learning

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Consistently</td>
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<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>Often</td>
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<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Modified Expectations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Scoring Key for MERLIN Academic Performance

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Exceeds MERLIN Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrates exceptional skill/concept development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Applies learning to other subject areas independently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Meets MERLIN Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrates skill/concept development appropriate for 5th grade MERLIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Applies learning to other subject areas with guidance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Approaches MERLIN Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrates skill/concept development that is below 5th grade MERLIN expectations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Requires extra time, support, and/or practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Well-below MERLIN Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Demonstrates skill/concept development that is significantly below 5th grade MERLIN expectations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Requires extended time, support, and/or practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Not Assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Not assessed this trimester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Modified Expectation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• In areas where a student’s score is based on a modified expectation, the score will appear as an “M”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELP</td>
<td>English Language Proficiency*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Indication of student’s language skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Please refer to the last page of this document for Special Education and ELL grading protocol.
Respect
- Follows school rules and expectations
- Recognizes and shows consideration for the rights and feelings of others
- Thinks before acting; manages impulsivity

Responsibility
- Is a self-directed learner
- Makes positive choices and learns from mistakes
- Produces high quality work; meets the standard or project rubric
- Demonstrates organizational skills; has materials ready and organized
- Follows directions

Collaboration
- Contributes responsibly in partner and group settings
- Listens with understanding and empathy

Persistence
- Actively engaged in learning
- Is able to continue when faced with a challenge; does not give up easily
- Sets short-term goals to complete long-term projects
- Accurately monitors own effort toward learning goals; reflects on progress
- Takes learning risks

Flexibility
- Adapts positively to new or different situations and ideas
- Makes transitions between routines comfortably and efficiently

Problem Solving
- Is creative and innovative
- Solves problems using imaginative approaches; shows originality
- Tries a variety of approaches, strategies, or alternatives
- Is inquisitive and curious

Speaking and Listening
- Listens actively
- Participates in collaborative conversations
- Shares ideas
MERLIN Fifth Grade
Reading

**Reads (MERLIN advanced) Grade Level Text**
- Reads and comprehends text accurately

**Comprehension**
- **Key Ideas and Details**
  - Cites textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text
  - Determines a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provides a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments
  - Describes how a particular story’s or drama’s plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution
- **Craft and Structure**
  - Determines the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyzes the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone
  - Analyzes how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot
  - Explains how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text
- **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**
  - Compares and contrasts the experience of reading a story, drama, or poem to listening to or viewing an audio, video, or live version of the text, including contrasting what they "see" and "hear" when reading the text to what they perceive when they listen or watch
  - Compares and contrasts texts in different forms or genres (e.g., stories and poems; historical novels and fantasy stories) in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics

MERLIN Fifth Grade
Writing

*Production and distribution of a variety of text types: Narrative, Informational, Opinion, Memoir*

**Structure**
- Writes narratives using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequence
- Writes informative texts to examine a topic and clearly convey information
- Writes opinion pieces supporting points of view with reasons, information, and counterpoints
- Links narrative and essay structure to write a memoir text
- Uses leads, transitions, and organization
- Composes a strong ending specific to the type of writing

**Development**
- Uses descriptive language to convey emotion, dialogue, and thoughts to bring story to life
- Includes facts, evidence and figurative language to make a point
- Uses words to show expertise on a subject; makes deliberate word choices
- Varies sentences to create the pace and tone of different sections of the piece
- Elaborates on ideas in ways appropriate for the type of writing
- Makes effective use of the writing process: prewrite, draft, revision, and edit
- Reflects on writing and sets goals

**Language Conventions**
- Uses grammar, spelling, and conventions appropriate for 5th Grade MERLIN expectations
Content

- **Ratios and Proportional Relationships**
  - Understands ratio concepts and uses ratio reasoning to solve problems

- **The Number System**
  - Applies and extends previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
  - Computes fluently with multi-digit numbers and finds common factors and multiples
  - Applies and extends previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers

- **Expressions and Equations**
  - Applies and extends previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
  - Reasons about and solves one-variable equations and inequalities
  - Represents and analyzes quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables

- **Geometry**
  - Solves real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume

- **Statistics and Probability**
  - Develops understanding of statistical variability
  - Summarizes and describes distributions

Practices

- Makes sense of problems and perseveres in solving them
- Reasons abstractly and quantitatively
- Constructs viable arguments and critiques the reasoning of others
- Models with mathematics
- Uses appropriate tools strategically
- Attends to precision
- Looks for and makes use of structure
- Looks for and expresses regularity in repeated reasoning

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**MERLIN Fifth Grade Science**

Understands and applies skills and concepts related to scientific principles from among the following content areas:

- Physical Science: Measurement of Force and Motion; Light, Sound, and Electricity
- Earth and Space Science: Focus on Fossils
- Life Science: Structures and Functions of Living Organisms; Heredity and Adaptation

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**MERLIN Fifth Grade Social Studies**

Understands and applies skills and concepts related to social studies from among the following content areas:

- U.S. History from the period of the early European explorers through the War for Independence
- U.S. Geography
Demonstrates behaviors that promote learning
- Stays on task
- Follows directions
- Contributes positively

Demonstrates skills and concepts
- Sings
- Performs with instruments
- Reads and notates music
- Composes and improvises
- Listens, analyzes, and describes music

Demonstrates behaviors that promote learning
- Stays on task
- Follows directions
- Contributes positively

Demonstrates skills and concepts related to health and fitness from among the following content areas:
- Demonstrates locomotor, non-locomotor, manipulatives, balance, and rhythm skills in group activities
- Applies movement concepts in cooperative situations; understands and applies the need for different roles with in a team game (offense and defense)
- Analyzes the health and skill related components of fitness
  - Cardiorespiratory endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and body composition
  - Power, agility, balance, speed, coordination, reaction time
- Uses fitness assessment scores to set personal fitness goals
- Understands skills and concepts related to health
  - Nutrition and the body
The term “exceptional learner” is defined to include students who are English learners, those who have disabilities (IEP or 504), and those needing/receiving intensive instruction on any critical skill.

The district report card for an exceptional learner will be prepared by the student’s general education teacher with input from the special education teacher. The IEP progress report will be prepared by the special education teacher and sent home at the same time as the general education report card.

An “M” designation on the report card signifies that a modified expectation for the standard was used for a student in a particular area and will accompany the numeric notation on the report card.

- **FOR BEHAVIORS that PROMOTE LEARNING** – For any student who requires modified expectations in the areas of behavior or social emotional learning the following should apply:
  - An “M” will be used on the report card in the “Behaviors that Promote Learning” section of the report card to indicate that the student’s grade in this area is based on modified expectations.
  - A “C” or an “O” could be used in any area if the student exhibits behaviors that are “consistent/often similar to grade level standards.
  - If the student does not struggle in the areas of Behavior or Social the general education scoring key will be used: “C,” “O,” “S,” or “R.”

- **FOR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AREAS** – The general education teacher and any applicable intervention teacher(s) will collaborate to determine the appropriateness of using an “M” for each exceptional learner. A number will not be used with the “M” designation, but rather the associated comment will provide detail.
  - An “M” will be used to indicate that the student’s grade in this area is based on modified expectations for the standard
  - If using the “M” designation on the standard, the teacher will choose an associated comment from the comment bank. The general comment reads “Grade is based on modified expectations.” There are also specific comments that can be used which read “Grade based on K standard,” “Grade based on 1st grade standard,” etc.

The district report card for a student in the ELL program will be prepared by the student’s general education teacher with input from the ELL teacher or ELL Educational Assistant. Your child may receive an ELP (English Language Proficiency) grade in content subject areas. An ELP score may be given instead of a 1 or 2. However, if your student is meeting standards, he/she will be given a 3 or 4 on their report card. An ELP grade means your student is working on their English language skills in that area and their learning is impacted by their English language development. The ELP comments explain what your child is able to do in each area.