



Arlington Heights School District 25

1200 S. Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60005 • (847) 758-4890 • Fax (847) 758-4909 • jadams@sd25.org

Fall, 2015

Dear Parent(s):

Each year, the district administers several state and local assessments to our students. The information obtained from these assessments aids our teachers' understanding of your child's strengths and needs in order to design instruction accordingly. If possible, please avoid scheduling outside appointments during testing time. With the exception of the PARCC test, each classroom may participate in these assessments at different times throughout the testing window, so you may have to refer to each teacher's particular testing schedule. We will utilize the following assessment tools during the 2015 - 2016 school year.

The **Achievement Improvement Monitoring System (AIMSweb)** is administered to our kindergarten through fifth grade students, in language arts. Kindergarteners are asked to identify letter names and sounds, and upon becoming readers, are asked to read grade-level passages throughout their elementary years. Teachers monitor the number of words read correctly and how well each student reads the passage. These assessments typically take three to five minutes and are administered to each student individually.

AIMSweb Administration Dates:

August 31 - September 25

January 11 - January 29

April 25 - May 6

The **NWEA Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)** will be administered to all students in grades 2 - 8 in the fall, grades 3 - 7 in the winter, and to new students or those in need of progress monitoring in the spring. The computerized format of MAP, aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards, assesses students in both reading and mathematics and is an adaptive test. The total time for testing in both areas is about two hours. Fall MAP test results will be sent home prior to fall parent teacher conferences. You may find additional information about MAP testing at the Northwest Evaluation Association's website - <http://www.nwea.org/>.

MAP Administration Dates:

September 8 - 25

January 4 - 22

April 25 - May 29

The **Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)** is given to students in grades 3-8. PARCC is a computer-based assessment built to evaluate students on the Illinois Learning Standards and measures whether students are on track to be successful in college and their careers. All students in these grade levels are tested in English Language Arts and Mathematics.

PARCC Administration Dates:

April 11 - 22

The **Advanced Placement** testing for **English Language Arts** is given to students who meet testing criteria based on performance on the winter MAP tests. Students who qualify, complete the district placement test in the spring in accordance to the grade levels below:

- All fifth grade students who qualify
- All sixth and seventh grade students in regular Language Arts who qualify

The **Advanced Placement** testing for **Math** is given to all students third through seventh grade in the spring. Two assessments are used for initial placement into advanced math. Students are assessed through their Winter MAP test and district placement test.

Advanced Placement Testing Dates:

April 4 - 8

The **Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System** is administered to all first through third grade students in the fall, kindergarten & third grade students in the winter, and kindergarten through second grade students in the spring. Information obtained from this assessment is used to provide classroom teachers with key information about individual students' strengths and areas for growth to drive their small group reading instruction. It also provides another data point to determine if students are progressing in their ability to read more complex text throughout the course of the school year.

Fountas & Pinnell Administration Dates:

September 1 - 25

November 30 - January 15

May 2 - 27

The **Illinois State Science Assessment** is scheduled to be administered to fifth and eighth grade students this spring through a computer-based platform. The assessment will be aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards, and will take into consideration the current transitional status of most Illinois classrooms.

Illinois State Science Assessment Dates:

Spring - TBD

All of these assessments provide our staff with critical information that helps us plan your child's educational experience. If you have any questions regarding any of these assessments, please contact your child's teacher or the principal of your child's school.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Adams
Assessment Coordinator
Department of Student Learning