

Dear Families,

Starting in late March, our students in grades 3-8 and 10 will take the Wisconsin Forward Exam. The Wisconsin Forward Exam is the state mandated test that is designed to measure student progress in key subject areas: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. The Forward Exam will test different subject areas at different grade levels.

The Forward Exam is a computer-based, untimed test in English Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 3 – 8. In grades 4 and 8, there are additional sections in Science and Social Studies. The English Language Arts section contains a Text Analysis section, a Listening and Writing section, in addition to a multiple choice Reading section.

The Forward is based on the Common Core State Standards. You can view a practice test with your child at this website by clicking on “Item Sampler”:

<https://wbte.drcedirect.com/WI/portals/wi>

Each school in the Madison Metropolitan School District has created a school Forward Exam schedule. Testing will take place between March 23 and May 1, 2020. Even though the test is untimed, we expect it to take a total of approximately 3 and 1/2 hours to complete: English Language Arts (2 hours) and Mathematics (1 and 1/2 hours). Fourth and Eighth grade students will have additional testing in Science and Social Studies. These will require approximately 3 hours to complete.

More information is available on the district website at: <http://mmsd.org/forwardtest> . You can also contact me directly at [tpeterson2@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:tpeterson2@madison.k12.wi.us).

Sincerely,



Tim Peterson  
Director of Assessment