

September 2019

Dear Families:

Between the months of September and October, your student will take tests called Measures of Academic Progress™ (MAP) to measure your child's academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of Reading and Mathematics. Each test will take less than one hour to complete.

MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for your student's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward testing. With MAP tests, we can administer shorter tests and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your student's growth. During the testing days, your child will spend a total of about 2 hours completing these tests. Your child will take the tests on a computer.

Each school year, students in grades 3-8 take the tests in fall, and in April to measure year-long growth. There will be no winter MAP testing. Following each testing period, a report showing your student's growth will be available. In the fall, they will be available at Parent/Teacher conferences. The spring results will be sent home with report cards or mailed to you.

We must prepare every student to be ready for college, career and community. The MMSD's *Great Teaching Framework* outlines a process for planning, teaching, reflecting and adjusting. Monitoring student growth is a key phase of the teaching cycle. The MAP test is one assessment among several that together give teachers information about what each student needs to reach their next level of learning.

For more information on assessment resources for parents, including links to NWEA's MAP Family Toolkit and the national MAP website, please visit the MMSD Assessment web site at: [mmsd.org/assessment](http://mmsd.org/assessment).

Sincerely,



Tim Peterson  
Director of Assessment