

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Your child's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test results from October are enclosed. These tests are one indicator of your student's instructional level and as one more piece of data for helping determine placement in freshman year classes in District 86.

MAP tests are computer adaptive tests. Each student takes a unique test determined by his/her answer to each test item. When a student answers an item correctly, the next item is more difficult. Conversely, when a student answers an item incorrectly, the next item is easier. Students were assessed in reading and mathematics on MAP. District 86 is developing plans to assess students using MAP in order to measure their academic growth over time.

To understand your student's report, there are several concepts that are helpful to understand. Test scores are reported somewhat differently from other tests. The overall scores on the test are reported in Rausch Units (RIT). The RIT scale score is designed to measure growth in instructional content. A RIT score has equal interval scales, like a ruler, independent of grade level or the age of a student and, therefore, it provides consistency over time.

The percentile score is used to compare one student's scores or performance on the test to that of a larger, norm group. In this case, the norm group represents over one million MAP test scores from students across the United States. According to the MAP publishers, Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), "The percentile means that the student scored as well or better than that percent of students taking the test in his/her grade."

You will find the MAP test will show what is referred to as the student RIT projection. The projected RIT score of the student for when they take a future test. This projected RIT score is based on the student's actual RIT score in the fall term and the average RIT growth of student who were in the same grade and tested in the fall as observed in the 2015 NWEA RIT Scale Norms Study.

The Lexile® Range can be used with online resources to identify appropriately challenging books, periodicals, and other reading material for the student. Lexile® is a trademark of MetaMetrics, Inc.

RIT and percentile scores are also presented as ranges. The middle number is the student's score or rank. The numbers on either side define the range (based on the student's individual standard deviation.) If the student were retested soon, their RIT or percentile score would be in this range most of the time.

You may find additional information and resources for parents on NWEA's website, www.nwea.org.

We hope you will find the reports informative. If you have questions, you can discuss this with your student's counselor at registration. Thank you for taking an active interest in your student's education.

Sincerely,
Brad Verthein
Director of Student Services
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