

**Elmbrook Schools**

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Dear Elmbrook Families,

The School District of Elmbrook administers the Measures of Academic Progress™ (MAP) Growth assessment to all students in Kindergarten through eighth grade and select groups at the high school level. MAP assessments are administered in the fall, winter, and spring each year in the areas of reading for 2nd-8th grade students and math for 1st-8th grade. Our Kindergarten students are assessed in the winter and spring in the area of math. The district's goal is to have timely assessment data that guides instruction and helps to determine students' instructional levels. We are very excited to use MAP results as part of our Balanced Assessment Program. The data will be valuable in tracking your child's growth over time.

Your child's MAP results have recently or will soon be sent home. These reports reflect your child's instructional level and growth in the areas of math and reading. MAP assessments are taken on a computer using software that is programmed to adapt to how your child answers each question. The questions become more difficult as your child successfully progresses through the assessment. Conversely, when a child answers a question incorrectly, the questions become less difficult. In addition, these assessments are aligned with the School District of Elmbrook's curriculum and the State Standards.

Your child's MAP results are reported in RIT scores. This is a different type of score than a typical test that provides a percentage of correct responses. MAP is also different from many tests that provide results based on your child's score compared to others in his or her grade. Instead, the RIT score is an equal-interval scale, like feet and inches, that is independent of grade level. As a result, student growth can be easily measured over time both throughout a school year and between years.

The MAP Reading results also provide another valuable piece of information about a student's reading ability, the Lexile measure. The Lexile measure is shown as a numerical range. Higher Lexile measures represent a higher level of reading ability. The Lexile score provides a tool to help educators accelerate student growth by helping to select books and curriculum materials that are appropriately challenging for each student. Lexile measures are used to monitor growth in reading ability over time. Parents can access the resource Find a Book at <http://www.lexile.com/fab/> to locate "just right" books by entering your child's Lexile range.

I hope you find your child's MAP reports informative. If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher or building principal. For additional information regarding NWEA's MAP assessments, you can navigate to the NWEA Family Toolkit at <https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/>. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's building principal or school counselor with any questions or concerns you may have.

We are truly excited to continue this integration of student growth data as part of our educational system. When we partner together to help all students learn we can have a profound positive effect on the lives of our children.

Sincerely,

Emily Greiber
Director of Elementary Teaching & Learning