



CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS

Educational Services

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“Chippewa Valley Schools. . .preparing students today for the challenges of tomorrow”

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Superintendent

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Assistant Superintendent
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Dr. Donald J. Brosky
Executive Director of
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Dr. Pamela Jones
Director of Curriculum &
Assessments

Dear Parent:

In Chippewa Valley Schools we continuously strive to provide the best possible learning environment for all students to excel. By aligning our instruction to the curriculum standards set by our state and by using assessments to determine students' progress toward those standards, we are better able to meet the needs of all students.

Last school year, Chippewa Valley added NWEA/ MAP assessments to our comprehensive assessment plan. MAP assessments are common benchmark assessments for all students in grades K-10. Three times during each school year (fall, winter & spring), students will take computerized assessments called Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) in Mathematics and English Language Arts.

The purpose of these assessments is to provide data on students' growth over time in the areas of mathematics and English Language Arts, so that teachers can use this data to inform instruction. The resulting data allows teachers to see the instructional ranges within their classroom and begin to target their teaching to specific skills students need. This allows for more individualized instruction within the classroom to meet the needs of all learners.

MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward testing. And with MAP tests, we can administer shorter tests and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your child's academic growth. During each testing period, your child will spend a total of about three hours completing these tests (kindergarten through second grade is only two hours). This assessment score will be used in conjunction with many other pieces of data we use to develop the whole picture of your child. All assessments can be impacted by items such as student familiarity, perceptions about testing, anxiety, and student engagement. This data will be just one piece of the picture; other measures of academic progress will continue to include MEAP, MME, DRA (K-2) and individual building and/or teacher assessments.

You may receive your child's MAP results up to three times a year. On the next page there are explanations of various components of this report to better help you understand your child's progress. Your child's MAP results are reported in RIT scores. This is a different type of score than a typical score on a classroom assessment. It does not provide results in a percentage of correct answers to total answers but rather provides results compared to other students across the country. The RIT is used to measure how “tall” a student is on a curriculum scale and scores can be compared to tell how much growth a child has made, similar to measuring height on a yardstick.

We are truly excited about the opportunity that the MAP assessments provide us to focus on each child's growth and achievement. Partnering to help all students learn, parents and teachers can have a profound positive effect on the learning lives of our children. We hope you find the enclosed reports informative. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Jones, at 586-723-2020 or pjones@cvs.k12.mi.us for further information.

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How to Read and interpret a Student Progress Report

There is a graph for each subject area test your child took. There is an individual graph for each subject area tested. The first set of bars on the graph is for the first testing session that your child participated in and the subsequent sets of bars are for subsequent testing sessions. Each testing session is designated by a letter (F=fall, W=winter, S=spring) followed by the year.

Within each set of bars, the first bar is your child's **RIT score**. The second bar is the district average for all students in your child's grade and the third bar is for the national norm derived from random sampling of all schools nationally who participate in NWEA assessments.

Underneath each subject bar graph there are additional sub-scores for each subject. The last bar on each graph, shown partially shaded, will be a growth projection for your child. At the top of the page the length of time for the growth projection is identified.

In the box at the right, it will also give you a Percentile range for your child. The number in the middle of this range is your child's percentile rank. The percentile indicates the percentage of students (nationally) who had a RIT score less than or equal to your child's score according to the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms study (2011) for students across the country in your child's same grade.

Under the reading graph you will see a Lexile range for your child. This indicates the complexity of the text based on the words and sentence length that is appropriate for your child at this time. Lexile range can be used with online resources to identify appropriately challenging books, magazines, and other reading materials for your child. Lexile is a trademark of MetaMetrics, Inc. If you visit the website www.lexile.com, you can enter your child's Lexile range and it will give you a list of books your child is ready to read at this time. Lexile levels are also commonly listed on books at book fairs or scholastic book orders.

For more information on resources for parents, download the ***Parent Toolkit***.