



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF GRAFTON
Department of Teaching and Learning

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Dear Parents and Families of Kindergarten and First Grade Students:

As we begin the 2017-18 school year we would like to inform you of some changes the district has made to the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) assessment schedule. MAP is a computer adaptive achievement test in mathematics and reading that the district has chosen as one assessment to measure student achievement and growth. In the past, MAP has been given to students beginning in kindergarten - 8th grade in both reading and math. At the elementary level, MAP is administered in the fall, winter and spring each year. The form of the MAP test changes at 2nd grade and at 6th grade, becoming more rigorous.

Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, MAP assessments will no longer be administered to kindergarten students in the fall. For first grade students, students will take the Math MAP assessment, but not the Reading MAP assessment in the fall. For students in grades 5K and 1st grade, students will take both the reading and math MAP assessment during the winter and spring testing intervals. In these two early grades, teachers will be focusing primarily on individual fall assessment opportunities including running records and conferring with students during Reader's Workshop. First grade teachers will also be referencing the spring 2017 MAP data when considering the assessment picture of each student.

MAP is one measure among several assessments that helps to create a picture of both achievement and growth for each child. In kindergarten, PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) and AVMR (Math Recovery) are high quality and informative assessments that will provide teachers with critical evidence of early literacy and math skills. Both of these assessments will be administered in the fall of 2017 and are not computer based.

We believe that these changes will eliminate early student technology frustration, test anxiety, and test fatigue while still providing teachers with a rich amount of data to inform instructional decisions. If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher, building principal, or me, and we will work to help you.

Thank you,

Dianna Kresovic
Director of Teaching and Learning