

Hello OLA Families!

Welcome to 2023! As we enter January many of our OLA students will soon be participating in benchmark testing in their core classes. Before we begin these tests, we want to share a little bit about why we take them, and what we do with the information gained.



Teachers use benchmark assessments to track students' progress towards mastering skills, and standards. Teachers can use this information to adjust their teaching to meet each individual's needs. As a school we use this data to determine who gets intervention with our specialists. Parents can use this information to see the progress their child is making during the year. Benchmark assessments are given periodically (typically three times a year in Fall, Winter, Spring) and are normally given in the classroom as part of instruction. These are not considered to be high stakes assessments, and the results are not used as part of our grading practices. We value the data we gain from this testing season as it helps us to alter and modify instruction to better meet the needs of our students.

Below is our Winter testing schedule:

Assessment	Subject	Grade	Window	Time	Purpose
DIBELS	Reading	K-1: all 2nd: students showing risk in Fall	January 9- February 3	10 minutes	This screening test measures early literacy skills.  This is also our Dyslexia Screener.
MAP Fluency	Reading	Recommend ed for 3-5 that score Lo/Lo-Avg on MAP Growth	January 9- February 3	20 minutes	Monitors oral reading fluency, literal comprehension, and foundational reading skills
MAP Growth Reading	Reading	3-8	January 9- February 3	45-75 minutes	MAP Growth helps teachers understand what students know today, so goals can be set to improve growth throughout the year.
MAP Growth Math	Math	3-8	January 9- February 3	45-75 minutes	
MAP Algebra	Math	HS	January 9- February 3	45-75 minutes	

If you have any questions about testing, please feel free to reach out. I would be happy to answer any questions!

Best,  
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Instructional Coach  
OLA Testing Coordinator