

Understanding Important Measures of Student Achievement ~ Required Assessments

Advanced Technology Academy 2023 - 2024

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA®) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®)

the Basics ...

- Given in the Fall, Winter & Spring
- Students in Grades K – 10
- Subjects Tested: Reading, Math & Science

the Specifics ...

- Administered on the computer
- Test adapts to your child's skill level so each assessment is unique

the Results...

- Show how your child performs in relation to other children in the U.S. at that grade level
- Measure your child's academic growth over the course of a year in his/her core subjects
- Identifies areas where the teacher can adjust instruction
- Identify students who may benefit from State & Federal Supplemental Education Programs – Title-I & 31a
- Reported to Michigan Department of Education and Lake Superior State University - a required benchmark assessment for Public Act 48

Need More Information

- www.nwea.org/sites/www.nwea.org/files/resources/ParentToolkit.pdf
- Call and/or email your child's teacher or principal

M-STEP Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress

the Basics...

- Given in the Spring: Dates TBD
- Students in Grades 3 – 8, 11
- Subjects Tested: Language Arts, Math, Science, & Social Studies

the Specifics ...

- Administered on the computer
- Includes multiple choice and constructed responses

the Results...

- Show your child's proficiency level on State standards
- Determine if your child should be retained based on Reading Score in Grade 3
- Measure how ATA students compare with other students in Michigan
- Identify areas where teachers can adjust curricular changes for the following year
- Reported to Lake Superior State University and in ATA's Annual Education Report for Michigan Department of Education
- Determine ATA's academic ranking in relation to all other schools in Michigan

Need More Information

- www.michiganpta.org/images/pdfs/ccssi/pta_mi_8pg_29dec13_final_web.pdf
- Call and/or email your child's teacher or principal

PSAT & SAT & Michigan Merit Exam (MME)

the Basics...

- Given in the Spring: Dates TBD
- Students in Grades 8 – 10 for PSAT and Grade 11 for MME (SAT & ACT Workkeys)
- Paper-Pencil & Computer Components

the Specifics ...

- PSAT® - college readiness / SAT® - college entrance examination
- ACT WorkKeys® - job skills assessments in reading, mathematics, and "locating information"

the Results...

- Show your child's college readiness in core content areas
- Measure how ATA students compare with other students in Michigan
- Identify areas where teachers can adjust curricular changes for the following year
- Reported to Lake Superior State University and in ATA's Annual Education Report for Michigan Department of Education
- Determine ATA's academic ranking in relation to all other schools in Michigan

Need More Information

- <https://sat.collegeboard.org/home>
- www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_35150---,00.html
- Call and/or email your child's teacher or principal

Preparing Everyday ...

- Ensure your child comes to school every day and on time
- Provide a quiet place for your child to complete his/her homework
- Require time everyday for your child to review what he/she learned in class
- Ask your child to explain what he/she learned in class each day
- Ask your child if there was something he/she still needs help understanding
- If there is any concern, call your child's teacher immediately
- Review your child's progress on PowerSchool regularly
- Attend Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Motivate your child to do his/her very best every day

Getting Ready

- Make sure your child is not scared or anxious going into the tests
- Explain that the assessments are created to help him/her better prepare for what's coming ... the next grade level, college & career
- Explain to your child that the tests will be challenging
- Tell your child you have high expectations and that you and his teachers are there to help every step of the way
- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast before the test

Going Forward ...

- Review the test results with your child
- If you need assistance with understanding the results, make an appointment with your child's teacher or principal
- Thank your child for putting forth his/her daily effort to do his/her best on the assessment
- If your child's results indicate he/she was below grade level on NWEA, not proficient on the Michigan Assessments, or not college ready on the PSAT / SAT / ACT Workkeys:
 - ✓ Meet with his/her teachers to put a learning plan in place
 - ✓ Consider enrolling your child in a tutoring program – ATA offers two Title-I funded after-school programs that focus on reading and math skills for those students who meet the criteria above
 - ✓ Let your child know you are still proud of his/her efforts