May 2, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Over the next few weeks, your child will participate in an assessment called Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®). We give students MAP tests to determine your child’s instructional level and to measure academic growth throughout the school year in the areas of math, language, or reading. Your child will take these tests on a computer.

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. With MAP tests, we can administer shorter tests and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your child’s growth. These more specific, shorter assessments will allow us to replace other lengthy testing and increase instructional time.

Students in grades K-9 will take the tests in the fall, winter, and spring each school year. Beginning in the fall and following each testing period, you will receive a report showing your child’s growth. You will also have an opportunity to work with your child on setting academic goals for next year.

We are truly excited to begin a new era that focuses on every child’s individual growth and achievement. Partnering to help all kids learn, parents and teachers can have a profound positive effect on the lives of our children.

For more information on resources for parents, download the Parent Toolkit at www.nwea.org or view samples on our district website under Curriculum & Instruction/Assessments.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (860) 354-3235.

Sincerely,

Joshua Smith
Assistant Superintendent of Schools