



August 17, 2018

Dear Parents,

Every year, AISJ students in Grades 3-8 partake in an assessment called **Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®)**. Students are administered this assessment twice throughout the year, in August and in May. MAP is administered on a computer. Your child will take the assessments in their respective homeroom classrooms on their laptops, supported by their classroom teacher.

This year, our first assessment window opens on August September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Students will take a total of three assessments: Reading, Math and Language Usage, throughout the week of September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The rationale for having this initial assessment so early in the year, is to help teachers obtain, and use, student data to drive classroom instruction and gain an accurate understanding of a student's academic growth over an entire school year. At AISJ, we also use this information to look at trends within grade levels and throughout the school.

The MAP assessments are scheduled during your child's normal school day. If a student is absent during an assessment session, we will allow them to do makeup assessments during the following week.

Leading up to the assessment, our teachers will be talking with students, to help them understand that these assessments are not designed to be high stakes, or cause anxiety. They are used to help provide their teachers with information about them as learners, and to help teachers plan learning experiences in the class. There is nothing parents or students need to do to prepare for the MAP assessments.

Following the assessments, parents will be emailed their child's results. **Our Teaching and Learning Director, Dr. Robert Evans will host an ES and MS Parent Information Session (September 28 @ 8:00am, in T & L 1), to further explain MAP testing and help parents understand their child's performance and growth.** Parents are encouraged to bring their results with them to this meeting. For parents who cannot attend this session, your child's teacher will send home a hard copy of the results in a sealed envelope in your child's backpack on the same afternoon.

Please contact your child's classroom teacher if you have questions regarding the MAP assessments.

Sincerely,

Ben Hart  
Elementary School Principal