



North Slope Borough School District

AK STAR reports are coming home for students in grades [list grades]

You may remember your students taking the AK STAR summative assessment last spring.

The Alaska System of Academic Readiness (AK STAR) is Alaska's state assessment for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. In spring 2023, AK STAR was administered to students in grades three to nine. AK STAR allows students to show what they know and can do related to Alaska's ELA and mathematics standards.

For the first time, AK STAR also included a growth component, similar to the MAP Growth assessments our District administers in the fall and winter. This approach allows students to take just **one** test but receive both a growth and a summative score.

Typically, the summative scores are released to families in the fall; however, DEED decided to delay the release of AK STAR scores. This summer, MAP Growth performance data and a linking student between grade-level percentiles provided new insights into proficiency levels. This information, along with a Policy Review Committee's consideration, led to a recommendation to adjust the current AK STAR cut scores.

Despite the delay caused by the adoption of new cut scores for AK STAR, the results are a necessary component of making data-informed decisions for students, families, teachers, administrators, district leadership, and policymakers:

- For our students and families, assessment results help determine strengths and challenges, and how to utilize both to continue academic growth.
- For our teachers and school administrators, assessment results can help evaluate progress, identify areas for improvement, and focus on what students need most.
- For our policymakers and district leadership, assessment results can ensure resources are allocated to the most vital areas of need.

Please watch this [short video from Commissioner Bishop](#) for more information about the delay in the AK STAR 2023 results.

The student results from these tests are now available, and they will be coming home soon. **It is important to remember that these scores reflect student achievement at the end of the last school year.** Teachers at your school can help you understand the report if you have questions. In addition, the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) has published a Family Guide for your use. The Guide can be found on [DEED's assessment webpage](#), or physical copies can be picked up from your child's school.

At [Name of School], we will be [Explain how reports are being distributed to parents]



**North Slope Borough
School District**

