Edina Public Schools

DEFINING EXCELLENCE

Title: 2025-2027 Edina Public Schools Assessment Plan

Type: Discussion

Presenter(s): Greg Guswiler Teaching and Learning Data Programming Analyst and
Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning

Background: In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 120B.301, subdivision (c)) and ESSA (ESSA Section 1006 (e)(2)(b)) public school districts are required to post a comprehensive district testing calendar before the first day of the school year.

The district testing calendar must:
- Provide information about all district tests administered, which includes both statewide assessments and any local assessments given and the subject/domain for each assessment.
- Provide the purpose for which each assessment is used.
- The rationale/benefits for administering the assessment.
- Include the amount of time students will spend taking the assessment.
- Post the specific dates when most students will be testing for each grade and subject at each school within the district

Source: Procedures Manual for Minnesota Statewide Assessments

In alignment with Policy 614 the Edina Public Schools Assessment Plan was collectively created throughout the 2021-22 school year. The proposed plan meets all state and local assessment requirements. It is also comprehensively structured to support and align with the Edina Comprehensive Assessment Plan.

Recommendation: This report is for discussion on the proposed 2026-27 Edina Assessment Plan and Calendar. It will be brought to the board for an additional discussion at the May 5th Board Meeting and action at the June 9th Board meeting.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Review the information and come prepared with your initial reactions (comments and questions) on the recommended plan.

Links:
1. [Assessment Calendar](#)

Edina Public Schools 2026-2027 Student Assessment Plan

The Edina Public Schools Assessment Plan is part of a comprehensive framework designed to measure student achievement and growth, as well as inform instructional decisions. At the core of this plan are Universal Screening Assessments in Literacy, Mathematics, and Talent Development, Required State Assessments, and a College Entrance Exam.

The Edina Public Schools Assessment Plan includes Spanish Dual Language and French Immersion. It is our current practice for Spanish Dual Language to administer all assessments that students take in English. This currently includes reading FastBridge, math FastBridge, and CogAT, and will include MCA and Panorama with the expansion of the program into 3rd through 5th grade. The Spanish Dual Language Assessment section of this report specifically outlines assessments in Spanish.

It is our current practice for French Immersion to administer some assessments that students take in English. This currently includes reading FastBridge K(fall) and 3-5, math FastBridge K-1 (fall) and 2nd - 5th, CogAT, MCA and Panorama. As the READAct is currently written, French Immersion will be adding literacy FastBridge in K-2 (3 times a year). *It is important to note that there is advocacy among Dual Language programs for this portion of the READAct to be revised. The suggested revision would require screening tools that use the primary language in which the program provides students instruction in.* The French Immersion Assessment section of this report specifically outlines assessments in French.

These assessments serve as valuable tools for evaluating student progress against our rigorous academic standards, identifying areas of strength and need, and ensuring that Each and Every Student receives the support they require to discover their possibilities and thrive. By combining state-mandated assessments with ongoing screening measures, Edina Public Schools is committed to providing a robust and informative assessment system.

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Universal Literacy Screening Assessments

Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Literacy		
Grades Assessed	**Windows**	**Results Released**
Pre School (PS) / Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)	Fall, Winter, Spring	Currently not shared. However, options are being discussed for the future.

Teaching Strategies GOLD is a comprehensive, observational assessment system designed to measure children's development and learning from birth through kindergarten. It provides a holistic view of a child's progress across various domains, including literacy, mathematics, and social-emotional learning (SEL).

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Individualized instruction: GOLD provides teachers with valuable insights to tailor instruction to each child's needs.
- Early identification of strengths and challenges: It helps identify children who may require additional support or enrichment.
- Data-driven decision-making: GOLD provides educators with data to inform their teaching practices and program improvements.
- Comprehensive view of child development: It offers a holistic understanding of children's growth and progress.

FastBridge Early Reading English Assessment

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
KG & 01	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

The FastBridge earlyReading English assessment is a valuable tool for educators focused on early literacy. The FastBridge earlyReading Assessment is designed as a universal screener to assess foundational reading skills in young learners, primarily in kindergarten and first grade. It helps identify students who may be at risk for reading difficulties. It can also monitor student progress in those fundamental reading skills. The assessment delves into essential early reading skills: Concepts of print, Phonemic awareness, Phonics and Fluency.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides data-driven insights into student literacy development.
- Helps identify students who need additional support.
- Enables teachers to track student growth over time and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions.
- Helps staff know which additional and more diagnostic assessments to administer.
- Allows for efficient screening, saving valuable instructional time.
- Grounded in research on reading development.
- The system generates informative reports that provide insights into students' strengths and weaknesses.

FastBridge FastTrack Literacy Assessment

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

The FastBridge FastTrack Literacy Assessment is a suite of tools designed to provide educators with data to inform literacy instruction. FastTrack Literacy, focuses on assessing foundational reading skills and comprehension. It includes the following components:

- aReading: Administered to all second to ninth grade students.
  - A computer-adaptive test that provides an overall measure of reading achievement.
  - Adapts to the student's ability level, providing efficient and accurate results.
  - Covers a range of skills, including phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- CBMreading: Administered to all second & third grade students.
  - Includes various measures that assess specific reading skills, such as oral reading fluency.
  - Used for progress monitoring and identifying students' strengths and weaknesses.
- AUTOreading: Administered to all fourth to ninth grade students.
  - Automated computer administered measures of decoding, word identification, spelling, and vocabulary.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides data-driven insights into student literacy development.
- Helps identify students who need additional support.
- Enables teachers to track student growth over time and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions.
- Offers evidence-based recommendations for instruction.
- Helps teachers know which additional and more diagnostic assessments to administer.
- Allows for efficient screening, saving valuable instructional time.
- Grounded in research on reading development.
- The system generates informative reports that provide insights into students' strengths and weaknesses.

Universal Mathematics Screening Assessments

Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Grades Early Learning Mathematics		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
Pre School (PS) / Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)	Fall, Winter, Spring	Currently not shared. However, options are being discussed for the future.

Teaching Strategies GOLD is a comprehensive, observational assessment system designed to measure children's development and learning from birth through kindergarten. It provides a holistic view of a child's progress across various domains, including literacy, mathematics, and social-emotional learning (SEL).

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Individualized instruction: GOLD provides teachers with valuable insights to tailor instruction to each child's needs.
- Early identification of strengths and challenges: It helps identify children who may require additional support or enrichment.
- Data-driven decision-making: GOLD provides educators with data to inform their teaching practices and program improvements.
- Comprehensive view of child development: It offers a holistic understanding of children's growth and progress.

FastBridge Early Math Assessment

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
KG & 01	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

The FastBridge earlyMath assessment is a valuable tool for educators working with young learners. The FastBridge earlyMath is designed to assess foundational numeracy skills in children, primarily in K-1. It is used for universal screening, and can be used for progress monitoring. The assessment focuses on essential early math concepts, including number sense, relations, and operations.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Early Identification: Helps teachers identify students who need early intervention.
- Data-Driven Instruction: Provides data to inform instructional decisions and tailor teaching to individual student needs.
- Progress Monitoring: Allows teachers to track student progress over time and adjust interventions as needed.
- Efficiency: The assessments are designed to be quick and efficient, minimizing disruption to instructional time.
- Informative Reports: The system generates informative reports that provide insights into students' strengths and weaknesses.

FastBridge FastTrack Math Assessment

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

The FastBridge FastTrack Math assessment is designed to provide educators with efficient and reliable data on a student's math skills. The FastBridge fastTrack Math is a valuable tool for educators seeking to improve math outcomes for all students. The FastBridge FastTrack Math includes the following components:

- aMath: Administered to all second to eighth grade students.
  - A computer-adaptive test that provides an overall measure of math achievement.
  - Adapts to the student's ability level, providing efficient and accurate results.
  - aMath provides detailed reports that help teachers understand students' strengths and weaknesses.
- CBMmath Automaticity: Administered to all second to eighth grade students.
  - A computer administered measure how automatically students can recall essential math information.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Data-Driven Instruction: Provides teachers with actionable data to inform instructional decisions.
- Early Identification: Helps identify students who are at risk for math difficulties.
- Progress Monitoring: Allows teachers to track student progress over time and adjust instruction as needed.
- Efficiency: The computer-adaptive nature of aMath combined with CBMmath Automaticity allows for an efficient assessment, saving valuable instructional time.

Universal Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Survey

Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Grades Early Learning SEL		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
Pre School (PS) / Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)	Fall, Winter, Spring	Currently not shared. However, options are being discussed for the future.

Teaching Strategies GOLD is a comprehensive, observational assessment system designed to measure children's development and learning from birth through kindergarten. It provides a holistic view of a child's progress across various domains, including literacy, mathematics, and social-emotional learning (SEL).

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Individualized instruction: GOLD provides teachers with valuable insights to tailor instruction to each child's needs.
- Early identification of strengths and challenges: It helps identify children who may require additional support or enrichment.
- Data-driven decision-making: GOLD provides educators with data to inform their teaching practices and program improvements.
- Comprehensive view of child development: It offers a holistic understanding of children's growth and progress.

Panorama Student SEL Survey

Grades Assessed	Window
03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12	Spring

The Panorama Student Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Survey is a tool designed to help schools and educators understand students' social and emotional competencies and their perceptions of the school environment. The survey focuses on student self-report, where students reflect on their own skills and experiences.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Data-Driven Instruction: Provides schools with data to tailor their tier 1 (whole-school) instruction to meet the social-emotional needs of their students.
- Understanding Student Needs: Helps teachers gain a deeper understanding of the strengths and areas for growth in SEL for the students at their building
- Creating a Positive School Climate: Offers insights into how students perceive the school environment, enabling teachers to make adjustments to foster a more positive and supportive atmosphere.
- Identifying Students Needing Support: The data helps to identify groups of students that may require additional social emotional support.

Talent Development Universal Screening Assessment

Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
02	Fall	Winter

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) is a group administered assessment that measures students' learned reasoning abilities developed through in-school and out-of-school experiences. The CogAT tests measure three cognitive domains, Verbal, Non-verbal, and Quantitative reasoning. The CogAT is a measure of a student's potential to succeed in school-related tasks. It is not a measure of general intelligence or IQ.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides information to view students from a strengths'-based perspective
- Highlights exceptional potential and hidden talent among all populations,
- Enhances the Talent Development identification portfolio.
- Provides insights into how students learn best, which can help teachers adapt their instructional practices

Spanish Dual Language Assessments

STAR Early Literacy Spanish Assessment		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
KG & 01 Students Enrolled in the Spanish Dual Language (SDL)	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

The STAR Early Reading Spanish Assessment is designed to evaluate foundational reading skills in young Spanish-speaking learners, primarily in kindergarten and first grade. It efficiently identifies students who may be at risk for reading difficulties and monitors student progress in fundamental Spanish literacy skills. The assessment evaluates essential early reading competencies specific to Spanish language development including: Conceptos de impresión (Concepts of print), Conciencia fonológica (Phonological awareness), Conocimiento alfabético (Alphabetic knowledge), and Comprensión inicial (Early comprehension).

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides data-driven insights into Spanish literacy development.
- Supports educators in implementing appropriate Spanish language interventions.
- Enables teachers to track student growth over time and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions.
- Guides instructional planning with detailed Spanish literacy skill analysis.
- Allows for efficient screening.
- Grounded in research on Spanish reading development and acquisition.
- The system generates informative reports that highlight students' strengths and areas for growth in Spanish literacy.

Advantages over FastBridge for Assessing Spanish:
- Computer-adaptive testing for more precise measurement
- Larger Spanish-speaking normative data samples
- Extensive validation studies for Spanish literacy
- Predictive capabilities for long-term reading outcomes

STAR Spanish Literacy Assessment

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
02, 03, 04, 05 Students Enrolled in the Spanish Dual Language (SDL)	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

STAR Reading Spanish is a valuable tool for educators focused on comprehensive Spanish literacy assessment. STAR Reading Spanish efficiently measures overall reading ability in Spanish-speaking students K-12 through a computer-adaptive format. It identifies students at risk for reading difficulties and provides instructional recommendations. The assessment evaluates critical Spanish literacy components including Vocabulario (vocabulary), Comprensión (comprehension), Análisis de texto (text analysis), and Adquisición del lenguaje (language acquisition).

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides detailed Spanish reading proficiency data.
- Identifies students needing intervention in Spanish.
- Tracks growth and evaluates instructional effectiveness.
- Generates comprehensive reports with instructional planning.
- Includes authentic Spanish content reflecting cultural relevance.

Advantages over FastBridge for assessing Spanish:
- True computer-adaptive technology specifically designed for Spanish assessment
- Robust normative data from native Spanish speakers
- On-demand assessment availability with immediate scoring
- Extensive research validation with diverse Spanish-speaking populations

STAR CBM Lectura Assessment

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
02, 03, 04, 05 Students Enrolled in the Spanish Dual Language (SDL)	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

STAR CBM Lectura is a valuable tool for educators focused on Spanish reading development. STAR CBM Lectura efficiently screens and monitors Spanish reading progress in grades K-5, measuring oral reading fluency through one-minute passages. It identifies students at risk for reading difficulties and analyzes Spanish-specific error patterns. The assessment evaluates: Conciencia fonémica(Phonemic Awareness), Fonética(phonics), Fluidez de lectura oral (Oral Reading Fluency), and Comprensión (Comprehension).

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides data-driven insights into Spanish reading development.
- Identifies students needing targeted intervention in Spanish.
- Tracks growth over time and evaluates intervention effectiveness.
- Enables efficient screening (1-3 minutes per measure).
- Generates reports highlighting strengths and weaknesses.
- Includes authentic Spanish texts reflecting cultural relevance.

Advantages over FastBridge for Assessing Spanish:
- Larger Spanish-speaking normative data samples
- Extensive validation with Spanish-speaking populations

STAR Math Spanish Assessment

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
02, 03, 04, 05	Fall, Winter, Spring	No later than one week after the window closes.

STAR Math Spanish provides reliable data on students' math skills in Spanish, featuring:
- A computer-adaptive test that provides an overall measure of math achievement in Spanish.
- Measures application of essential math concepts in Spanish
- Assesses grade-level standards alignment and skill mastery

Benefits:
- Data-driven instruction for Spanish-speaking students
- Early identification of at-risk students
- STAR Math Spanish helps English-first bilingual students accurately measure math skills acquired in Spanish immersion programs, validating their progress in both language and mathematics simultaneously
- Progress monitoring with culturally responsive adjustments

Advantages for Assessing Math in Spanish:
- Assessment in native Spanish language
- Culturally relevant assessment items
- Support for bilingual and dual language programs
- Comprehensive Spanish reporting for educators and families

French Immersion Assessments

<table>
<tr>
<td colspan="3">French Early Reading Phonemic Awareness Inventory scores (8 tests in French) plus French sight words</td>
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<td>Grades Assessed</td>
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<td>KG & 01 Students Enrolled at Normandale Elementary</td>
<td>Winter & Spring</td>
<td>Progress in this domain is shared at Spring conferences and summative results are a part of Semester 2 grade reporting.</td>
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The French Reading Phonemic Awareness Inventory is designed to assess both unified and component skills associated with kindergarten through 1st grade. Based on the Science of Reading, these subtests are intended to enable screening (to determine interventions) and progress monitoring across several domains (onset, medial, rime sounds, rhyming, onset blending, phoneme blending, onset segmenting, phoneme segmenting), It provides domain-specific information on these component skills, as well as a general estimate of overall early reading achievement in French.

The assessment aims to measure a student's ability to hear, identify, and manipulate the individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken French. Because French has its own unique phonological rules, these assessments are designed to reflect those specific characteristics. They are often used in early childhood and primary education, particularly in French immersion programs. A key component of these assessments is to follow the Science of Reading principles, which are also being applied to Normandale's French Literacy Block.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides valuable insights into students' strengths and weaknesses in phonemic awareness in French.
- Helps teachers to tailor instruction to meet individual student needs in French.
- Allows for early identification of students who may be at risk for reading difficulties in French.
- Informs instructional decisions and helps to monitor student progress in French.
- Helps to guide intervention strategies in French.
- Helps to provide data for progress reports of early French reading skills at Normandale.

French IDAPEL		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
01 & 02 Students Enrolled at Normandale Elementary	Fall, Winter, Spring	Results and progress towards benchmark are shared at conference time and in Semester 1 and 2 grade reporting.

The "IDAPEL" has evolved, and it's now often referred to as "Acadience Reading Français." However, the core purpose and principles remain consistent.

The purpose of the French IDAPEL assessment is to provide educators with standardized, reliable measures to track student progress in fundamental reading skills in French. Like FASTBridge measures, Acadience Reading Français (formerly IDAPEL) is a series of French-language benchmark assessments and coordinating progress monitoring probes designed to evaluate early literacy skills in students learning to read in French, primarily in grades 1-5. It's modeled after the well-established DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) assessments used for English literacy. The subtests used include phonological awareness, alphabetic principle, reading fluency. They are designed for universal screening and identification of students who may be at risk for reading difficulties.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides data-driven insights into student reading development in French.
- Helps identify students who need additional support.
- Allows teachers to monitor the effectiveness of their instruction and interventions.
- Offers standardized measures for consistent evaluation.

The Acadience Reading Français provides a valuable tool for educators to ensure that students are developing the foundational skills necessary for successful reading in French.

Standards-Based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP) French listening, Speaking, and Reading Assessment		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
03 Students Enrolled at Normandale Elementary	Fall	Collective results are shared with leadership teams made up of diverse stakeholders and used for programming decisions. Individual results are not shared with families.
08 French Immersion Students Enrolled at Valley View	May	Results are shared with students and families in the spring following testing and also used to track French Immersion programmatic progress.

The Avant STAMP (Standards-Based Measurement of Proficiency) assessments, particularly the STAMP 4S, are designed to evaluate language proficiency in real-world contexts. The STAMP assessments measure language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. 8th grade students do all components of the assessment and 3rd grade students do all components but the writing. The STAMP aims to provide accurate data on a learner's ability to use the language in practical situations. The assessments utilize authentic materials, such as articles, audio clips, and scenarios, to simulate real-life language use.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Provides reliable data to track student progress and inform instructional decisions.
- Provides consistent evaluation due to alignment with national and international language proficiency standards.
- Helps evaluate the effectiveness of language programs and identify areas for improvement.
- Models for students the application of the language in day to day life.

Statewide Required Assessments

WIDA Access for ELLs / WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
KG, 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12 ELL Students	Spring	Typically early September of the Next School Year The Actual Date is Determined by the MDE

It's important to understand the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs and WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs assessments, as they play a crucial role in evaluating the English language proficiency of English learners (ELLs).

The ACCESS for ELLs is a suite of large-scale, standards-based assessments designed to measure English language proficiency in four domains. The domains are Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. It's administered annually to ELLs in grades K-12. The assessment is aligned with the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Standards.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Allows teachers to track students' progress in acquiring academic English over time.
- Results provide valuable data for planning and differentiating instruction to meet the specific needs of ELLs.
- Helps determine whether students are eligible for English language support services and whether they have achieved sufficient proficiency to be reclassified.
- Meets federal requirements for monitoring and reporting ELLs' progress.

WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs:
Basic Description:
- This is an individually administered, paper-based assessment designed for ELLs with significant cognitive disabilities.
- It measures English language proficiency in the same four domains as the general ACCESS for ELLs.
- It is designed to be accessible for students that participate in alternate state testing.

Specific Aspects and Benefits for Teachers:
- Provides a way to assess the English language proficiency of ELLs who cannot participate in the general ACCESS for ELLs assessment.
- Allows for flexibility and accommodations to meet the unique needs of each student.
- Allows teachers to gather data on the English language development of students with significant cognitive challenges.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) Math / MTAS Math

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 11	Spring	Typically early September of the Next School Year The Actual Date is Determined by the MDE

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) in mathematics primarily serve to measure student achievement against state academic standards, providing a gauge of how well students have learned key mathematical concepts. These assessments also fulfill state and federal accountability requirements, and offer valuable data to educators for refining instructional practices and curriculum effectiveness.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Allows for consistent measurement of student performance across the state, enabling comparisons between schools and districts.
- Offers educators valuable insights into student strengths and weaknesses, enabling targeted adjustments to teaching and curriculum.
- Satisfies state and federal mandates, ensuring schools and districts are held responsible for student progress.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) Reading / MTAS Reading		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 10	Spring	Typically early September of the Next School Year The Actual Date is Determined by the MDE

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) in reading primarily serve to measure student achievement against state academic standards, providing a gauge of how well students have learned key concepts. These assessments also fulfill state and federal accountability requirements, and offer valuable data to educators for refining instructional practices and curriculum effectiveness.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Allows for consistent measurement of student performance across the state, enabling comparisons between schools and districts.
- Offers educators valuable insights into student strengths and weaknesses, enabling targeted adjustments to teaching and curriculum.
- Satisfies state and federal mandates, ensuring schools and districts are held responsible for student progress.

MCA Science / Alternate Science

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
Students Currently Taking Biology, Typically 11th grade.	Spring	Typically early September of the Next School Year The Actual Date is Determined by the MDE

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) in science primarily serve to measure student achievement against state academic standards, providing a gauge of how well students have learned key science concepts. These assessments also fulfill state and federal accountability requirements, and offer valuable data to educators for refining instructional practices and curriculum effectiveness.

Benefits of the Assessment:
- Allows for consistent measurement of student performance across the state, enabling comparisons between schools and districts.
- Offers educators valuable insights into student strengths and weaknesses, enabling targeted adjustments to teaching and curriculum.
- Satisfies state and federal mandates, ensuring schools and districts are held responsible for student progress.

ACT: College Entrance Exam

Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
11th Grade Students	Spring	Typically Mid to Late August of the Next School Year Determined by the MDE

The ACT (originally American College Testing) is a standardized test used for college admissions at some Universities in the United States. Here's a breakdown of what it is and how it's used:

Standardized Test:
- It's designed to measure a high school student's general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work.

Sections:
- The ACT consists of four multiple-choice sections:
  - English
  - Mathematics
  - Reading
  - Science
- There's also an optional writing section.

Purpose:
- It provides colleges and universities with a standardized way to compare applicants.

How Colleges and Universities Use the ACT:

Admissions Decisions:
- Many colleges use ACT scores as part of their admissions process. Scores are considered alongside other factors like high school GPA, coursework, extracurricular activities, and essays.

Placement:
- Some colleges use ACT scores to determine placement in certain courses, such as math or English.

Scholarships:
- Many scholarships, both from colleges and other organizations, use ACT scores as part of their eligibility criteria.

College Readiness:
- The ACT is designed to measure college readiness, so colleges use it to gauge how well prepared a student is for higher education.

Required Statewide Surveys

Minnesota Student Survey		
Grades Assessed	Windows	Results Released
05, 08, 09, 11	Winter or Spring	Typically early September of the Next School Year The Actual Date is Determined by the MDE

The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) is a statewide survey administered every three years to students in grades 5th, 8th, 9th, and 11th public and private schools in Minnesota. This data provides valuable insights into the experiences and perspectives of Minnesota students and helps schools, communities, and policymakers with resource allocation and decision making in relation to overall well-being. The survey covers a wide range of topics, including:

- Health: Physical and mental health, substance use, and sexual health
- Safety: Bullying, violence, and school climate
- Engagement: Academic engagement, extracurricular activities, and school connectedness
- Relationships: Family, peer, and community relationships

The MSS is a valuable resource for understanding the challenges and opportunities faced by Minnesota students and for taking action to improve their lives.

Appendix

| Universal Screening Literacy Testing Windows | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

2025-2026 Literacy Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed														
Assessment Name	Window	Assessment Window Dates	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Literacy	Fall	08/30/2005 - 12/20/2025	■													
	Winter	01/04/2026 - 03/01/2026	■													
	Spring	03/01/2026 - 05/30/2026	■													
FastBridge earlyReading English	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025		■	■											
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026		■	■											
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026		■	■											
FastBridge FastTrack Literacy Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				

■ Administered to all students

2026-2027 Literacy Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed													
Assessment Name	Window	Assessment Window Dates	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Literacy	Fall	08/30/2026 - 12/20/2027	■													
	Winter	01/04/2027 - 03/01/2027	■													
	Spring	03/01/2027 - 05/30/2027	■													
FastBridge earlyReading English	Fall	08/10/2026 - 10/09/2026		■	■											
	Winter	12/07/2026 - 01/22/2027		■	■											
	Spring	03/15/2027 - 05/14/2027		■	■											
FastBridge FastTrack Literacy Assessment	Fall	08/10/2026 - 10/09/2026				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
	Winter	12/07/2026 - 01/22/2027				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			
	Spring	03/15/2027 - 05/14/2027				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			

■ Administered to all students

Universal Screening Math Testing Windows

2025-2026 Math Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed													
Assessment Name	**Window**	**Assessment Window Dates**	E L C	K G	0 1	0 2	0 3	0 4	0 5	0 6	0 7	0 8	0 9	1 0	1 1	1 2
Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Math	Fall	08/30/2025 - 12/20/2025	■													
	Winter	01/04/2026 - 03/01/2026	■													
	Spring	03/01/2026 - 05/30/2026	■													
FastBridge earlyMath	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025		■	■											
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026		■	■											
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026		■	■											
FastBridge FastTrack Math Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				

■ Administered to all students

2026-2027 Math Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed														
Assessment Name	**Window**	**Assessment Window Dates**	E L C	K G	0 1	0 2	0 3	0 4	0 5	0 6	0 7	0 8	0 9	1 0	1 1	1 2
Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) Math	Fall	08/30/2026 - 12/20/2026	■													
	Winter	01/04/2027 - 03/01/2027	■													
	Spring	03/01/2027 - 05/30/2027	■													
FastBridge earlyMath	Fall	08/10/2026 - 10/09/2026		■	■											
	Winter	12/07/2026 - 01/22/2027		■	■											
	Spring	03/15/2027 - 05/14/2027		■	■											
FastBridge FastTrack Math Assessment	Fall	08/10/2026 - 10/09/2026				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
	Winter	12/07/2026 - 01/22/2027				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
	Spring	03/15/2027 - 05/14/2027				■	■	■	■	■	■	■				

■ Administered to all students

Spanish Dual Language Universal Screening Testing Windows

2025-2026 Spanish Dual Language Literacy Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed													
Assessment Name	Window	Assessment Window Dates	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
STAR Early Literacy Spanish Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025		■	■											
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026		■	■											
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026		■	■											
STAR Literacy Spanish Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025				■	■	■	■							
	Winter*	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026														
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026				■	■	■	■							
STAR CMB Lectura Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025						■	■							
	Winter*	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026														
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026						■	■							

■ Administered to all students

* Administered to some students showing need for instructional purposes

2026-2027 Spanish Dual Language Literacy Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed													
Assessment Name	**Window**	**Assessment Window Dates**	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
STAR Early Literacy Spanish Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025		■	■											
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026		■	■											
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026		■	■											
STAR Spanish Literacy Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025				■	■	■	■							
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026				■	■	■	■							
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026				■	■	■	■							
STAR CMB Lectura Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025						■	■							
	Winter*	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026														
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026						■	■							

■ Administered to all students

* Administered to some students showing need for instructional purposes

2025-2026 Spanish Dual Language Math Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed														
Assessment Name	Window	Assessment Window Dates	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
STAR Math Spanish Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025				███	███	███	███							
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026				███	███	███	███							
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026				███	███	███	███							

2026-2027 Spanish Dual Language Math Universal Screening Assessments			Grades Assessed														
Assessment Name	Window	Assessment Window Dates	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
STAR Math Spanish Assessment	Fall	08/11/2025 - 10/10/2025				███	███	███	███							
	Winter	12/08/2025 - 01/23/2026				███	███	███	███							
	Spring	03/16/2026 - 05/15/2026				███	███	███	███							

French Immersion Universal Screening Testing Windows

2025-2026 French Immersion Literacy Assessments			Grades Assessed												
Assessment Name	**Window**	**Assessment Window Dates**	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
French Reading Phonemic Awareness Inventory scores (8 tests in French) plus French sight words	Fall	Not Assessed														
	Winter			■												
	Spring			■												
French IDAPEL	Fall				■	■										
	Winter				■	■										
	Spring				■	■										
Standards-Based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP) French listening, Speaking, and Reading Assessment	Fall						■									
	Spring											■				

■ Administered to all students

2026-2027 French Immersion Literacy Assessments			Grades Assessed														
Assessment Name	Window	Assessment Window Dates	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
French Reading Phonemic Awareness Inventory scores (8 tests in French) plus French sight words	Fall	Not Assessed														
	Winter			■												
	Spring			■												
French IDAPEL	Fall				■	■										
	Winter				■	■										
	Spring				■	■										
Standards-Based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP) French listening, Speaking, and Reading Assessment	Fall							■								
	Spring												■			

■ Administered to all students

Statewide Assessment Testing Windows

2025-2026 Statewide Assessments		Grades Assessed													
Assessment Name	Assessment Window Dates	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
WIDA ACCESS for ELLs	01/26/2026 - 03/20/2026		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs	01/26/2026 - 03/20/2026		❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋
MCA Math	03/02/2026 - 05/01/2026					■	■	■	■	■	■			■	
MTAS Math	03/02/2026 - 05/01/2026					❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋			❋	
MCA Reading	03/02/2026 - 05/01/2026					■	■	■	■	■	■		■		
MTAS Reading	03/02/2026 - 05/01/2026					❋	❋	❋	❋	❋	❋		❋		
MCA Science	03/02/2026 - 05/08/2026							■			■			■	
Alternate Science	03/02/2026 - 05/01/2026							❋			❋			❋	

■ Administered to all students

❋ Administered to students who meet qualification requirements outlined by The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)

Source: https://education.mn.gov/mde/dse/test/PROD081893

Statewide Assessments 2026-2027 School Year *DRAFT Per The MDE*		Grades Assessed													
Assessment Name	**Assessment Window Dates**	ELC	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
WIDA ACCESS for ELLs	02/01/2027 - 03/26/2027		☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆	☆
WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs	02/01/2027 - 03/26/2027		❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀
MCA Math	03/08/2027 - 05/07/2027					■	■	■	■	■	■			■	
MTAS Math	03/08/2027 - 05/07/2027					❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀			❀	
MCA Reading	03/08/2027 - 05/07/2027					■	■	■	■	■	■		■		
MTAS Reading	03/08/2027 - 05/07/2027					❀	❀	❀	❀	❀	❀		❀		
MCA Science	03/08/2027 - 05/14/2027							■			■			■	
Alternate Science	03/08/2027 - 05/07/2027							❀			❀			❀	

■ Administered to all students

☆ Administered to students receiving English Language Learner (ELL) Services

❀ Administered to students who meet qualification requirements outlined by The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)
Source: https://education.mn.gov/mde/dse/test/PROD084891

Assessment Calendar

[Online Assessment Calendar](#)

Using the Assessment Calendar
1. Access the [Assessment Calendar](#)
2. Filter the calendar
   a. Select your School from the drop list.

   b. Select your Student/s Grade/s from the Grade drop list and click the apply button

   c. Optional Select the category of assessment you wish to view and click the apply button

3. You can download the calendar as a PDF by clicking the **Download as a PDF** button.