



Prospect Heights School District 23
Board Memorandum
Information Item

Date: January 8, 2026

Subject: Assessment Update

Prepared by: Dr. Craig Curtis, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

As we approach the new year and the “Assessment Season” begins, it is important to update the Board of Education regarding the tests administered in District 23 and the purpose behind those assessments. As indicated in the chart below, the majority of the assessments are required by the State of Illinois for accountability purposes. Although many of these tests are mandated, they provide useful information to our students, parents, teachers, administrators, and community about how our students “measure up”.

As you may recall, a few years ago, we streamlined our local assessments by removing the FastBridge assessments from our universal screening process and used i-Ready as a universal screener for reading and math, instead of the combination of NWEA MAP, Fastbridge, and i-Ready we had used previously. We continue to utilize FastBridge for progress monitoring and gathering additional data to better understand our students academically. Our assessments provide valuable information used for placement as well as for a temperature check on how our students are meeting the Illinois Learning Standards. We study this data and use the information for a portion of the evaluation of teachers, schools, programs, and much more. While testing is important, we always keep in mind that these types of assessments are just one piece of data and do not comprise the entire picture of student, teacher, and programmatic success.

Although there are many assessments listed, we are focused on the day-to-day work of our Prospect Heights School District 23 Mission Statement, which is to engage ALL students in experiences that inspire EACH to grow as learners, individuals, and community members. Should you have any questions regarding assessments in the district, please contact Dr. Craig Curtis.

Student Assessment Philosophy Statement

The assessment program for District 23 is designed to measure student growth related to district standards aligned with the Illinois Learning Standards. This information guides instruction and supports each student’s academic and personal development.

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Student Assessment Schedule*
([Link to Document](#))

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| <u>Local Assessments</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| i-Ready Reading and Math Diagnostic ** | An adaptive diagnostic assessment in reading and math. This diagnostic will provide a specific, individualized path throughout the school year in i-Ready. | Fall: Sept 2 - Oct 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Winter: Dec 1 - Jan 23 | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | |
| | | Spring: Mar 30 - May 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Social, Academic, Emotional Behavior Risk Screener (SAEBRS) | SAEBRS is a brief and efficient tool for universal screening of student risk for social-emotional and behavioral concerns. | Fall/Winter: October | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Winter/Spring: February | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | |

* All assessments are tentative and subject to change. This chart represents “windows” in which testing may occur.

** Kindergarten will take the Fall i-Ready diagnostics 4-6 weeks after they start school.

❖ Literacy Assessment is delivered in Spanish for students in the TBE program. Directions and responses in Spanish are permissible for the Math benchmarks.