

2015-16 Overview of Testing by Grade

Elementary								Middle School		High School			
PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
WSS/MKEA (2 collection per.)													
ESI													
DIBELS Next (3x)													
		F & P BAS (3x)											
Access for ELLs													
				MAP (2-3x)*									
				PARCC ~									
				MCAS – Reading Comprehension									
				MCAS – Math									
				MCAS Compos				MCAS – Compos		MCAS – Compos			
						MCAS STE			MCAS – STE				
										MCAS – HS STE Tests**			
										EPP***			
										AP Exams			
										PSAT			
										SAT			
										ACCUPLACER			


*Optional testing determined by each school: Winter ELA, Spring ELA or Spring Mathematics

*Includes: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Technology/Engineering (WPS students most often participate in Biology in 9th or 10th grade)

*** Administered to students with Educational Proficiency Plans

~The use of PARCC (The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessment) as the new state assessment during the 2015-16 school year is expected to be determined in October 2015.

= administered to all students in grade level

 = grade levels where strategic use is encouraged

District Assessments

Early Screening Inventory (ESI)

ESI is a brief developmental screening instrument designed to be individually administered to children entering kindergarten. It is used to identify children who may need special education services in order to perform successfully in school. The instrument addresses developmental, sensory, and behavioral concerns in the following areas: visual motor/adaptive, language and cognition and gross motor skills. The ESI-K uses three categories to describe the screening results: (1) Ready (child exhibits age appropriate development); (2) Getting Ready (teachers are encouraged to monitor the child's progress and, if indicated, to re-administer the ESI) or (3) Not Ready (child does not demonstrate age appropriate behavior).

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
K	8/31-9/4	Click here for ESI product details	SAGE, School records	

Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills NEXT (DIBELS NEXT)

Like the previous version (DIBELS 6th Ed.), DIBELS Next consists of a set of procedures and measures for assessing the acquisition of early literacy skills. They are designed to be short (one minute) fluency measures used to regularly monitor the development of early literacy and early reading skills. DIBELS NEXT is individually-administered and takes 1 to 4 minutes to complete. This test is generally administered at the beginning, middle, and end of the year.

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
K - 1	K: 8/31-9/18 Gr 1: 8/27-9/18 K&1: 12/1-12/23 K&1: 5/2-5/20	Click here to visit the Amplify DIBELS Next platform	SAGE, DIBELS Next Online Reports	Appendix A

Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (F&P BAS)

The Benchmark Assessment System is a formative reading assessment comprised of 58 "little books" divided evenly between fiction and nonfiction. The assessment measures decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills for students in kindergarten through 8th grade. This individually-administered assessment should be conducted by the classroom teacher and typically takes 45 minutes to complete. This test will be administered to all students at the beginning, middle, and end of the year in grades 1 and 2. In kindergarten and grades 3 through 8, testing practices are determined at each school.

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
K - 8	8/27-9/25 2/1-3/4 5/2-6/3	Click here for F&P BAS product information	SAGE, school records	Appendix BAppendix

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)

MAP is an adaptive computer-based test system for mathematics and reading that is group-administered. An overall RIT score (i.e. Rasch Unit, a type of scaled score) is provided along with sub-scores for each goal performance area. Users should note that the district does now use a common-

core aligned version (see below). Schools may also use *Descartes: A Continuum of Learning*, an instructional tool that allows educators to translate a MAP test score into skills and concepts a student may be ready to learn. A student's Lexile score – a unit for measuring text difficulty—is also reported. This test is generally administered to students at the beginning and middle of the year in grades 3 and 9. Winter ELA testing is optional for schools, as is Spring ELA and Mathematics. In grades 2 and 10, testing practice is determined at each school.

- *Goal areas in Reading:* (1) Literature, (2) Informational Text, (3) Basic Skills and Vocabulary, (4) Writing: Plan, Develop, Edit, (5) Language: Grammar, Usage, (6) Capitalize, Spell, Punctuate
- *Goal areas in Mathematics (grades 2-5):* (1) Algebraic Thinking, (2) Number and Operations (3) Fractions, (4) Measurement and Data, Geometry
- *Goal areas in Mathematics (grades 6+):* (1) Algebra and functions, (2) Real and Complex Number Systems, (3) Geometry, (4) Statistics and Probability

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
2-10	9/14-10/8 1/4-2/12** 5/9-6/3*	For information on MAP, click here	SAGE, NWEA Online Reports	Appendix C

** Winter testing optional for **ELA only**. Mathematics still required for grades 3-9.

*Spring testing optional for both ELA and Mathematics.

State Assessments

Work Sampling/Massachusetts Kindergarten Entry Assessment (WSS/MKEA)

In 2012-13, schools began administering the WSS/MKEA to all kindergarteners. Since 2000, the Work Sampling System has been the formative assessment tool utilized by the district's Head Start program to inform instruction, design professional development opportunities, and use when working with families. As part of a state pilot, the district has expanded use of the WSS to include both kindergarten and preschools in the district. This helps teachers collect information about children's work, identify what children are learning, what they are beginning to master, and what they still need to work on. Work Sampling consists of 3 interrelated elements: observational checklists, portfolios of student work and summary reports. Portfolio samples are gathered throughout the year and help demonstrate progress through concrete illustrations of the child's thinking. Developmental guidelines and checklists cover seven major curriculum areas: personal and social development, language and literacy, mathematical thinking, scientific thinking, social studies, the arts, and physical development and health. These are used to provide structure to teacher observations of students and aid in systematic data collection to monitor student progress.

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
Pre-K, K	11/6, 6/3	Click here to access Work Sampling Online	Work Sampling Online reports	

Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS)

MCAS measure performance based on the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework learning standards; and report on the performance of individual students, schools, and districts. As required by the Education Reform Law, students must pass the grade 10 tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics as one condition of eligibility for a high school diploma (in addition to fulfilling local requirements). Students must also earn a scaled score of at least 220 on one of the high school MCAS Science and Technology/Engineering (STE) tests: Biology, Chemistry, Introductory Physics, or Technology/Engineering. In addition, the MCAS program is used to hold schools and districts accountable, on a yearly basis, for the progress toward cutting the proficiency gap in half by 2016-2017. Results are reported for individual students, schools, and districts according to four performance levels defined by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education: Advanced (260-280), Proficient (240-258), Needs Improvement (220-238) and Warning/Failing (200-218).

- English Language Arts/Reading (Grades 3-8, 10) includes multiple-choice, open response and short response items (grade 3 only)
- English Language Arts - Composition (Grades 4, 7, 10) includes writing prompts that require students to respond by creating a written composition.
- Mathematics (Grades 3-8, 10) includes multiple-choice, open response and short answer items
- Science, Engineering and Technology (Grades 5, 8, 9-12) tests include multiple choice and open response items. High school tests administered in grades 9-12 include biology, chemistry, introductory, physics and technology and engineering.

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
3-12	See Testing Calendar (Appendix D)	For information on MCAS, click here	EDWIN Analytics, ESE Security Portal, student reports on file at school	

MCAS Alternative Assessment

MCAS Alt is intended for a small number of students “with the most significant disabilities who are unable to take the standard MCAS tests even with accommodations” (Massachusetts DESE, 2010). The MCAS Alternate Assessment consists of a portfolio of materials collected by the teacher and student, including work samples, instructional data, videotapes, and other supporting information.

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
3-12	2/22-3/11; UPS Pickup by 4/1	Click here for information on MCAS Alt	EDWIN Analytics, ESE Security Portal, student reports on file at school	

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessment

In November 2013, the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education endorsed a two-year “test drive” of a new testing program called PARCC. PARCC is aligned to the 2010 Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in English Language Arts and Mathematics, which incorporate the Common Core State Standards. In 2013-14, many schools in Worcester participated in the PARCC field testing. In 2014-15, districts in Massachusetts had the choice to administer either PARCC and/or MCAS in grades 3-11 (with the exception that all high school students through at least the class of 2018 must continue to pass the grade 10 / high school MCAS tests in ELA, Mathematics, and Science and Technology/Engineering to satisfy the state graduation requirement). About 40% of WPS testing sites chose to administer PARCC during the 2014-15 school year. Information regarding full implementation by the state of Massachusetts’ Department of Education is expected to be made available during the fall of 2015.

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
3-11	CBT: 4/25-6/6 PBT: 4/25-5/27	For information on PARCC, click here	EDWIN Analytics, PearsonAccess Next, ESE Security Portal, student reports on file at school	

Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs)

ACCESS for ELLs is a large-scale English language proficiency assessment given to students in Kindergarten to 12th grade who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs). Beginning in 2012-13, this assessment replaced the MEPA/MELA-O. The Access for ELLs consists of four sections:

- Listening
- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking

In grades 1-12, the listening, reading and writing sections are group administered while the speaking section is individually administered. All four sections are individually administered to ELLs in kindergarten. Scores are reported for each of the four language domains and in several composites.

Grade(s) Assessed	Administration Dates	Website	Where to Find Results	Additional Resources
K-12	1/7-2/10	For information on ACCESS administration, click here	EDWIN Analytics, ESE Security Portal, paper reports sent to schools and district office	