



WE ARE:
GRACE!

October 2018

Dear Parents of GRACE Students,

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing is one of the many ways GRACE, as a school system, monitors the academic progress of our students in grades K-8. MAP is an online, computer-generated testing program created by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) that evaluates students' knowledge in the areas of mathematics, reading, language usage and science.

This letter accompanies your Student Progress Report showing your child's unique and individualized results for the Fall 2018 MAP testing.

Included below is some basic information regarding the MAP test and some of the terms you will see on your child's report. For further information and a more detailed description of the report form, please go to the GRACE website and look under the Our Schools tab in the Academic Excellence section. (<https://gracesystem.org/academic-excellence/>)

Blessings for a wonderful school year as we focus on continual learning, growth, and achievement for all students.

WHAT IS MAP?

The Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is a computerized assessment that provides GRACE with the information needed to improve teaching and learning and make student-focused, data driven decisions. Students in grades kindergarten through eight are tested twice per year, with an optional winter testing window, in Math (K- 8), Reading (K-8), Language Arts (2-8) and Science (4-8). Educators use the growth and achievement data from NWEA MAP to develop targeted instructional strategies, plan school improvement and elevate student achievement. The Diocese of Green Bay requires MAP testing in schools as a way to ensure high-level teaching and learning.

MAP:

- Is administered using a computer or laptop during the school day
- Generates test questions based on student responses
- Reports student results in RIT scores
- Provides information used to target individual instruction
- Measures growth over time
- Gives immediate results to teachers

RIT SCORE

After each MAP test, students receive a RIT score. Think of the score as a student's height. The score reflects the student's academic knowledge, skills, and abilities like inches reflect height. Scores over time can be compared to tell how much growth a student has made, similar to measuring height with a ruler.

RIT scores are expected to increase over time. One low test score is not the cause for immediate concern. Like adults, students have good and bad days; therefore, an atypical test score does not always indicate their actual knowledge level. Measuring growth over time is a good indicator of student learning. Parents and guardians should become comfortable with the understanding that individuals grow at different rates. Our goal is for GRACE teachers to use the data to differentiate and adjust instruction so that all students individually grow at the appropriate level.

HOW IS THIS DATA USED?

- Direct classroom instruction for all applicable subject areas
- Create differentiated math and reading groups
- Identify areas of need and strengths for each student
- Develop GSSP for struggling students