

## **Assessment for Learning**

Assessing/Testing student achievement and monitoring that progress is a priority in Independence and most schools around the country. If we are clear about what our students need to know and then assess to find out their level of understanding we can better serve them. In the past several years Independence Public School has built a strong assessment system based on the most current research in best educational practices. Listed below are the many tests and their test windows that our school currently uses and a short explanation of each. If you have further questions about any assessments we use please contact your child's teacher, Dr. Vine, Mr. Schmitt, Mrs. Stuttgen or Mrs. Woychik.

### **How can families help their students perform at their best?**

- ***Fostering a positive attitude about the process of learning.***
- ***Reminding students that working hard is something to be proud of.***
- ***Getting rest, drinking plenty of water, eating healthy, and staying active-everyday***

Many of the tests list a testing *window*. This means that our students will test some time during that window. The specific testing time and date for your child will be shared with you via your child's home folder (elementary only).

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Test</b>	<b>Test Window</b>	<b>Purpose and where to find more information:</b>
K-8	<b>AIMSweb</b> Academic Improvement Monitoring System	September 9-20, January 6-17, May 12-23	<a href="http://www.aimsweb.com/">http://www.aimsweb.com/</a>  Brief assessment of early literacy, early numeracy, reading, math, and behavior.
K-12	<b>FAST</b> Formative Assessment System for Teachers	September 9-20, January 6-17, May 12-23	<a href="https://www.fastforteachers.org/login.do;jsessionid=BD03722F5536BDE94ACBC2D0596A9599">https://www.fastforteachers.org/login.do;jsessionid=BD03722F5536BDE94ACBC2D0596A9599</a>  Computer adaptive measure of broad math (K-5 only) and reading that is individualized for each student.
4K-1	<b>PALS</b> Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening	<b>4K &amp; 5K</b> Oct 14-Nov 8 (optional) Jan. 20-Jan. 31 April 28th-May 2  <b>1st Grade</b> Sept. 6-Oct. 11 (optional) Jan 20-31	<a href="http://pals.virginia.edu/">http://pals.virginia.edu/</a>  Assessment of early literacy skills.
6-12	<b>STAR Math</b>	September 3-13, January 6-17, May 1-15	<a href="http://www.renlearn.com/sm/">http://www.renlearn.com/sm/</a>  Computer adaptive measure of broad math that is individualized for

			each student.
3-8 and 10	<b><u>WKCE/WAA-SwD</u></b> Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exams or Wisconsin Alternative Assessment for Students with Disabilities	October 28-November 14	<a href="http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/oea_publications">http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/oea_publications</a>  Assesses student achievement in core subjects
5k-12	<b>ACCESS</b> Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners for English Language Learners	December 3-February 1st	<a href="http://www.wida.us/assessment/access/">http://www.wida.us/assessment/access/</a>  Assesses student's academic language proficiency.
8-11	<b>ACT Suite</b> American College Testing Suite Testing that includes EXPLORE, PLAN and ACT	October 10 April 17	Assesses college readiness. <a href="http://www.actstudent.org/">http://www.actstudent.org/</a>

