



A Message from the Offices of Academics, Assessment and Early Childhood Education

10/14/2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

SLPS has made a commitment to reduce the number of testing days for our students. However, we are aware this has not been implemented consistently at every school site.

Only certain tests are required for District students. We want to make sure you understand which tests are actually required.

The following assessments are currently required by SLPS:**

Grade Level	Assessment	Frequency
Pre-K	DRDP	Beginning + end of school year
	SIPPS	Beginning + end of school year
Kindergarten	STAR	3 times per year
	SIPPS	Beginning + end of school year
1st Grade	STAR	3 times per year
	SIPPS	Beginning + end of school year
2nd Grade	STAR	3 times per year
	SIPPS	Beginning + end of school year
	Acuity Diagnostics 1, 2 and 3	3 times per year
Grades 3-8	Local Benchmark	2 times per year
	Acuity C	1 time per year
	STAR	3 times per year
Grades 9-12	Acuity Diagnostics 1, 2 and 3	3 times per year
	STAR (if needed)	3 times per year

*** Please note, this chart does not include state-mandated testing, such as MAP tests for elementary and middle school students and End of Course exams (EOCs) for high school students.*

801 N. 11th St. | St. Louis, MO 63101
Phone: 314-345-2549 (Academics) | 314-345-2360 (Assessment)
314-334-6150 (Early Childhood Education)



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GLOSSARY

DRDP: The State Board of Education’s recommended voluntary kindergarten readiness tool is the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) instrument developed by the California Department of Education. This instrument will provide useful information to parents, child care providers, teachers and administrators about the learning and development of each student.

SIPPS: Systematic Instruction in Phonological Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words (SIPPS) offers a systematic approach to decoding to support students from grades K–12 in gaining reading fluency and comprehension. SIPPS provides an initial assessment to help teachers determine the appropriate starting place for each student so they can meet each student at the point of need.

STAR: STAR assessments are computer-adaptive tests designed to provide accurate, reliable and valid data quickly, so schools can make good decisions about instruction and intervention. STAR Reading and STAR Early Literacy include skills-based test items, learning progressions for instructional planning and in-depth reports.

Acuity: The Acuity College and Career Readiness (CCR) and Diagnostic interim or formative assessment solution, for grades 3–12, helps educators measure student growth and achievement in this new era of more rigorous standards. Acuity CCR and Diagnostic online assessments include items written to the new college and career readiness standards.

Local Benchmark: SLPS uses district-developed benchmark assessments twice a year as an indicator for MAP GLA performance. The benchmarks are used for instructional planning and academic interventions throughout the school year

If you have questions about these assessments, please do not hesitate to reach out to your school’s principal or director. Specific questions about assessments for preschool through grade 2 should be addressed to the Early Childhood Education Office at 314-331-6150. Specific questions related to assessments for grades 3-12, can be answered by calling the Assessment Office at 314-345-2525 or by emailing Dr. Bertha Doar, SLPS Director of Assessment, at Bertha.Doar@slps.org.

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