



## KILDEER COUNTRYSIDE COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 96

September 2017

Dear Parents of Students in Kindergarten Through Grade 8,

Please check your child's backpack for the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test results from the recently completed Fall MAP testing. These tests determine your child's instructional level and measure academic growth over time in the areas of mathematics and reading. Students in grades 1-7 take the reading and math tests in fall, winter and spring. Kindergarten students take the reading and math tests in the fall and spring only, and 8th grade students take the reading and math tests in the fall and if more diagnostic information is needed in the winter and spring.

MAP tests are unique in that they are adaptive tests your child took on a computer. That means that the test became more difficult the more questions your child answered correctly. When your child incorrectly answered a question, the test became easier. Therefore, your child took a test specifically created for his or her learning level. Your child's MAP results are reported in *RIT scores*. This is a different type of score than a typical test that provides a percentage correct. It is also different than many tests that provide results based on your child's score compared to others in his or her grade. Instead, the RIT score is an equal-interval scale, like feet and inches, that is independent of grade level. As a result, we can easily measure growth in learning. This type of score increases the value of the tests as a tool to improve student learning because it enables teachers to recognize where to focus attention for your child's learning.

After taking the Winter MAP test, teachers will be working with all students to understand the MAP results and set a growth goal for the Spring. We will begin this process with some students in the Fall as part of a pilot, so please check with your child to determine if they have participated in a goal-setting process with their teacher.

I hope you find the enclosed reports informative. NWEA also provides information for parents at:  
<https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2017/08/Parent-Guide.pdf>

If you have questions, please contact your building principal or me directly at (847) 459-4260 ext. 8010 or via email at [jspiller@kcsd96.org](mailto:jspiller@kcsd96.org). Thank you for taking an active interest in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Spiller  
Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

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