

Hollister R-V School District

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

Results from the 2017 spring Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests are now available, and we want you to know how proud we are of your children. (You will be receiving these results during our first round of parent teacher conferences, but if you would like your child's results sooner, please feel free to contact the counselor at your child's school.) Our students and teachers have worked hard to reach rigorous academic standards. They have also adapted well to continuous changes in the assessment program:

1. 2017 spring MAP assessment represents the third time students were tested on CCSS standards for English and Math, the third time elementary students used computers to take the exams, but only the second time these specific assessment questions were used.
2. Because the company that provided the assessment questions changed last year, direct comparisons to previous years' data could be misleading. Please note that it is difficult to compare these test results to those from prior years as these are new tests with different learning expectations. While these results are significant, they are insufficient in providing a complete picture of our students' academic progress.
3. State academic standards have now changed. DESE has adopted new standards for the state of Missouri, called the Missouri Learning Standards. This year's MATH and ELA state assessments will change to reflect the new standards, making it difficult for schools to create consistent trend lines for comparison.

New academic standards next year will bring new definitions of the four proficiency levels: below basic, basic, proficient and advanced. Families should remember that the 2017 MAP test proficiency levels are based on the academic standards adopted last year, but next year's proficiency levels will be different.

State assessment is only one way we ensure we are meeting your child's needs. We use assessments – at the classroom, school, district and state levels – to make critical decisions about instruction, interventions and support, and district policies.

We are committed to ensuring that all children in our district are prepared for success, and we look forward to starting the new school year with you and your student.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sandy Leech
Hollister R-V School District
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning