

# Hollister R-V School District

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Dear Parent or Guardian,

Results from the 2018 spring Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests are now available, and your child's scores were sent home with them today (Friday, February 1). We want you to know how proud we are of your children. Our students and teachers have worked hard to reach the rigorous academic standards that these assessments cover. They have also adapted well to continuous changes in the assessment program.

High academic standards will prepare Missouri students for success both in school and beyond. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has released the following information about our most recent state assessments:

1. The tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math were new and completely different for 2018, so comparisons with results from previous tests would be pointless.
2. You will not see a science score because science assessments were field tests, meaning that scores will not be reported. The field test was administered to allow new performance levels to be set before actual test administration in 2019.
3. Test results from 2018 were delayed because cut scores for ELA and Math were set after the tests were given last spring. Setting cut scores is an in-depth, careful process involving Missouri teachers and other experts. **Again, results cannot be compared with previous years.**

New academic standards and cut scores bring new definitions of the four proficiency levels: below basic, basic, proficient and advanced. Remember, since DESE completely changed the state assessment to reflect new standards and cut scores, your child's proficiency level this year may not be consistent with their past performance on state assessments.

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 continuing a great school year with you and your student.

Sincerely,

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