

Understanding MAP Student Progress Report

Dear Parents,

Our students in grades three through eight recently completed their MAP standardized testing. This is our first year participating in this program. In the future, MAP will help us monitor students' growth from one testing session to the next. This first year we only have results from one session, so these results are a snapshot of students' progress at this point in time.

Attached to this note are two documents. The Quick Reference Guide produced by MAP is designed to help parents understand the Student Progress Report. The Quick Reference Guide is rather technical and may be hard to understand. For this reason, we've put together these notes to help you understand your child's results.

- Students were tested in four academic disciplines – math, reading, language, and science. Science is on the backside or second page of your child's report.
- For each subject area, you see a bar graph that shows the RIT score. The RIT score is unique to MAP and helps monitor progress over time. The blue bar is your child. The orange bar is our school's class average. The yellow bar is the national average. The bar graph allows you to compare your child's results to his classmates and the nation.
- Below the bar graph is a list of the different facets of that particular subject area and a rating of Lo, LowAvg, Avg, HiAvg, and Hi. These ratings give you a general sense of your child's progress in each area.
- To the right of the bar graph is a chart. SP17 stands for Spring 2017 – our testing time frame. The middle RIT score is your child's RIT score from the bar graph. The range of RIT scores represents how your child would likely perform if given the same test in the very near future. The percentile score is a ranking out of 100. If your child has a percentile score of 75, it means he performed on par with or better than 75% of the children in his grade level across the nation. The 50th percentile is the definition of average – the middle of the pack. Typically our St. Mark's students collectively perform 15-25 percentile points above the national average.

As you analyze your child's results, please keep in mind that standardized tests are only one piece of the overall assessment picture. MAP results will be more beneficial in the future when we can compare students' growth between testing sessions. Various factors can affect students' results for better or for worse. This was our third graders' first time taking standardized tests, and it was all our students' first time taking a standardized test on a computer.

If any questions about your child's test results come to mind, please contact your child's teacher.

In Christ's service,
Mr. Bauer