



January 19th, 2017

Hello Free Horizon Families,

Free Horizon kindergarten through 8th grade students completed the MAP assessment for the winter back in December. We've been studying and using the data to help better the instruction in the classroom and we are now getting the MAP scores for your child to you. We apologize for the delay, and please keep in mind that students will be further along in their academics than what are reflected on the scoring sheets.

The **N.W.E.A. Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)** is conducted three times a year in grades K-8. This assessment, testing reading and math skills, is given on the computer and automatically adjusts the academic level based on the answer the child gives. Every child receives a different test. This test gives us more information and maintains a "growth record" for the parents. That means that you can track your child's improvement or lack of improvement with each test. This is an assessment also given by the district. MAP gives the teacher immediate feedback on how the child is progressing. It also provides the teacher specific skills that still need mastery, which allows for differentiated instruction to be given to each child.

There are many factors that go into how students score on any assessment. A good breakfast, time of year, interruptions to testing, and student's wellness can cause scores to plateau or even decrease. Some students were also given the assessment one level above or below where they tested in the fall. Remember, any test is simply a point in time. It is never used to make a single decision, but becomes part of a "body of evidence" about the child's learning.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or myself with any questions or concerns you may have about the MAP assessment. My email is jornelis@jeffcoschools.us

Sincerely,

Jesse Ornelis

Assessment Coordinator