

Peterborough Elementary School

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Dear Families,

As the ConVal elementary schools planned for reopening this fall and developed models of instruction to support students, we have taken into account that students attended and completed approximately two-thirds of the 2019-2020 school year in person. While we have a lot of information about our students including past assessment results, previous report cards and progress reports, attendance reports, data provided by counselors, interventionists and special education teachers, and parent feedback, the state has asked districts to consider additional assessments.

The NH Department of Education is requiring schools to administer NH SAS Interim Assessments for students in grades 4 – 8. Students in grade 4 will take the grade 3 spring interim assessment for English Language Arts and Mathematics. Additionally, the elementary principals have agreed that all students in grades 2 through 5, participate in the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress assessment.

The NHSAS interim assessment allows educators to gather information about student learning, to inform teaching and learning, and evaluate grade level instructional progress in relation to the common core standards. It is a snapshot of student learning and takes less time to administer than the summative assessment that is taken each spring.

Interim Assessments are:

- Computer adaptive - difficulty adjusts based on the child's performance
- Approximately 30 items per test (shorter than Summative test)
- 100% machine-scored
- Test items are secure; like the items on the summative
- Aligned to New Hampshire's Content Standards
- Can be administered remotely or in the classroom

New Hampshire's RSA 193-C:6 permits parents to exempt their public school students from participating in the required statewide assessments. If you are choosing to exempt your child from the NH-SAS statewide assessment, please complete the [attached form](#) and return to school by Monday, October 19th.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment is similar to the NHSAS assessment. The ConVal district has consistently used MAP to measure students' growth from year to year, to inform teachers of students' learning, and assist with creating instructional targets for students.

We will give students in grades 2-5 the MAP assessments twice this year, once in the fall and once in the spring to measure growth. Following the administration of both the NHSAS and MAP assessments,

individual student reports will be printed out and sent home for parents to review. You will receive your child's reports no later than November 13, 2020.

Results from NHSAS and MAP assessments are used by teachers to decide what skills and knowledge to prioritize when working with your child. Following the administration of the assessments, grade level teams meet to review the results, analyze student performance, and identify instructional goals for each child. Our goal is to tailor the instruction provided to your child in such a way that it maximizes their levels of learning and achievement.

While the information from these assessments is used to inform all aspects of the instruction provided to your child, it particularly informs and influences the instruction provided to your child during small group time. During small group time, teachers have the opportunity to offer carefully targeted instruction that focuses on exactly what your child needs.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or me.

Sincerely,
Larry Pimental