



A Community of Learners

Informational Memo: New Trier ERB Results for the Washburne Class of 2018

TO: School Board
Superintendent Kocanda

FROM: Barry Rodgers, Director of Innovation, Teaching and Learning

August 21, 2018

Overview and Background

New Trier High School administers the Educational Records Bureau (ERB) Comprehensive Testing Program as one component of the portfolio used to recommend placement of students in appropriate course levels at New Trier. New Trier also reviews student information letters, profile forms completed by parents, and information provided by middle school teachers. Washburne eighth grade students took the Comprehensive Testing Program (CTP) in November of 2017. Four areas are assessed: verbal reasoning, reading comprehension, quantitative reasoning, and mathematics.

A Summary of Results

The summary provided by the ERB compares local scores with three norm groups: national, suburban, and independent schools. Results for students at Washburne's 75th, 50th, and 25th percentiles are as follows:

Students at Washburne's 75th Percentile

Test Area	National percentile	Suburban percentile	Independent percentile
Verbal Reasoning	92	70	61

Reading Comprehension	91	77	78
Quantitative Reasoning	98	77	78
Mathematics 1 & 2	98	75	79

Students at Washburne's 50th Percentile

Test Area	National percentile	Suburban percentile	Independent percentile
Verbal Reasoning	85	52	42
Reading Comprehension	81	55	55
Quantitative Reasoning	94	55	54
Mathematics 1 & 2	92	51	53

Students at Washburne's 25th Percentile

Test Area	National percentile	Suburban percentile	Independent percentile
Verbal Reasoning	64	22	15
Reading Comprehension	64	26	27
Quantitative Reasoning	85	35	32
Mathematics 1 & 2	71	23	23

When looking more closely at historical data for National, Suburban, and Independent Norms at the 75th percentile, this past year’s eighth grade class performance equaled or surpassed the the 2016 cohort in all comparisons (surpassing in 10 areas and equaling in 2 areas). In comparison to the 2017 cohort, overall performance of the 2018 cohort was on par with the 2017 cohort demonstrating a difference in the area of verbal reasoning and small increases in the areas of reading comprehension, quantitative reasoning and math 1 & 2.

**Three 8th Grade Classes
(75th Percentile)**

Test	2015-2016			2016-2017			2017-2018		
	N%	S %	I %	N%	S %	I %	N %	S %	I %
Verbal Reasoning	92	69	60	93	75	67	92	70	61
Reading Comp.	91	75	76	91	75	77	91	77	78
Quantitative Reasoning	97	69	68	98	74	76	98	77	78
Math 1 & 2	97	70	74	98	73	78	98	75	79

It is important to note that New Trier administrators have cautioned that the ERB results are one piece of a larger profile used for their placement recommendation process. In utilizing a more comprehensive view of students which includes academic performance, leadership roles, and participation in extracurricular activities, New Trier has been consistently impressed with the performance and preparation of Winnetka D36 students.

The ERB is not used by District 36 to evaluate individual student growth and achievement or as a measure of our academic programs as the CTP assessment does not report performance aligned to D36 curriculum and state standards. This sentiment is shared throughout the Township as all seven Township Superintendents have agreed that the ERB is not the standard for Freshmen preparedness. District 36 uses a robust set of assessments to measure student growth and achievement, which are aligned to our curriculum and with state standards. The composite picture of our students’ performance on multiple measures is provided in the fall assessment report and again at the end of the

school year. These assessments are representative of best practices and facilitate a culture of continuous improvement.

Alignment with the District 36 Shared Vision

Our shared vision emphasizes that we support and challenge all learners to actively engage in continual growth and achievement. D36 is committed to utilizing a robust set of assessments and ongoing articulation with New Trier to monitor our student's progress.