

EPIPHANY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

inspiring mind and soul

NWEA Map Growth

Administered to Grades K – 8

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is a state-aligned, computerized-adaptive, assessment program that provides educators with the information they need to improve teaching and learning and make student-focused, data-driven decisions. Students in grades 1-8 are tested three times per year in math, reading, and language usage. Students in kindergarten are tested in the spring of each school year. Educators use the growth and achievement data from MAP to develop targeted instructional strategies and to plan school improvement.

What is a MAP Score?

Student MAP testing results are reported in RIT scores (short for Rasch Unit). The RIT scale is an equal-interval scale much like feet and inches on a yardstick. A RIT score is an estimation of a student's instructional level and also measures student progress or growth in school. You may have a chart in your home on which you mark your child's height at certain times, such as on his or her birthday. This is a similar chart to show how much he or she has grown academically throughout the year in mathematics, reading, and language usage.

Understanding the RIT Score

The charts in this document show national median RIT scores for grades K-11 in a typical school district. You may use these charts to help determine if your student is performing at, above, or below grade level compared to students across the nation.

It is important to understand that the MAP test is one test at one point in time. It does not measure intelligence or a student's capacity for learning. When making important decisions about students, school staff will consider the MAP test results along with other data such as classroom performance, other assessments, and input from parents and teachers.

Growth Over Time

We expect RIT scores to increase over time. Typically, younger students show more growth in one year than older students. Students who test above grade level often show less growth. Sometimes RIT scores may decline from one test to the next. One low test score is not cause for immediate concern. Like adults, students have good and bad days and their test results do not always indicate what they know. Student's attitudes toward the test and comfortability with computer use can also affect their scores. Therefore, growth over time is a better measure of students learning.

Parents and guardians should become comfortable with the understanding that individuals will grow at different rates. Anticipated growth rates for each student are based on national norms and should be viewed as "typical" growth, not expected growth. Our teachers continue to participate in training to learn what the MAP test results mean and how to best utilize the results. The goal is to use the data to differentiate and adjust instruction so that all students grow appropriately for their ability.