



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Maine Educational Assessments (MEA) includes required assessments in Mathematics, English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy, and Science. The 2018-19 State summative assessment in Mathematics and ELA/Literacy for grades 3-8 will again be the eMPowerME delivered online by Measured Progress. The third-year high school assessment of Mathematics and ELA/Literacy will again be the SAT delivered by the College Board. The Alternate Mathematics and ELA for grades 3 – 8 and third year high school continues to be the Multi State Alternate Assessment (MSAA), delivered online by Measured Progress. The MEA Science continues to be a paper/pencil test for students in grades 5, 8, and third year high school, delivered by Measured Progress. Students in grades 5, 8, and third year high school, who are eligible for the alternate science assessment continue to participate in the Personalized Alternate Assessment Portfolio (PAAP).

In the coming months, Maine will administer the eMPowerME, SAT, and MEA Science, MSAA and PAAP assessments.

The testing windows for the assessments are as follows:

Testing Window	Assessment	Intended for:
March 1 – April 30	PAAP Alternate Science	Grades 5, 8, third-year high school
March 18 – April 12	eMPowerME Mathematics & ELA/Literacy	Grades 3 – 8
March 18 – May 5	MSAA Alternate Mathematics & ELA/Literacy	Grades 3 -8, third-year high school
April 1 – April 12	MEA Science	Third-year high school
April 9	SAT Mathematics & ELA/Literacy (School day administration)	Third-year high school
April 22 – May 3	MEA Science	Grades 5, 8
April 23	SAT Mathematics & ELA Literacy (make up)	Third-year high school

These assessments provide a snapshot of the standards that guide instruction in the classroom and provide valuable information about student learning. We are committed to providing accurate information to parents and families in our community about the value of student participation in statewide assessments.

As a parent, you can use the information from the test to help support your child at home and guide a discussion with your child’s teacher to identify what, if any, additional support is necessary in school. Teachers use this information, in combination with local assessments, to guide their instruction and provide more personalized activities and learning opportunities for students. While no single test can give a complete picture of achievement, when combined with other measures, it can provide important information about student progress.

Both the Maine Department of Education and our district are working to limit the amount of testing at the state and district level to ensure that tests provide meaningful information for teachers, students and parents. When a student does not participate in the state assessment, valuable information is lost. We are committed to student achievement, and the MEA raises the bar for our students to ensure they are on the path to success. We are confident that with the quality instruction delivered by our dedicated educators, and your support, our students can meet and exceed these expectations. We encourage you to reach out to your child’s teacher or me with any questions you may have about the MEA or your child’s progress.

Thank you,

Robert Kahler, Principal