



WLS 4016  
2020-2021

TESTING PURPOSES and SCHEDULE

**FASTBridge:** (local assessment) WLS administers the FAST test. The reasons are numerous:

- To frequently (minimum of 3-5 x per year) assess student performance in an efficient manner that is not time-consuming or fatiguing for students;
- To administer a test which is closely aligned with the Montessori curriculum and the Minnesota State Standards;
- To use a test which is closely connected to learning and to guiding subsequent teaching, rather than a score-oriented once-a-year dramatic and sometimes stressful event;
- To be better able to organize and display our testing data in a variety of ways for a variety of purposes;

The FAST test is administered in Reading and Math for all students in grades 1-8, three to five times per year.

For more on the FAST test, visit this website:

<https://blog.fastbridge.com/blog/assessments-and-universal-benchmark-screening-0>

\*\*\*Fall FAST Assessment (all students grades 1-8)  
**9.14.20-9.25.20**

Assessment	Grades Administered	Estimated Administration Time
Math	Grades 1-8	30-40 minutes
Reading	Grades 1-8	30-40 minutes

\*\*\*Winter FAST Assessment (all students grades 1-8)  
**1/4/21 - 1/15/21**

Assessment	Grades Administered	Estimated Administration Time
Math	Grades 1-8	30-40 minutes
Reading	Grades 1-8	30-40 minutes

\*\*\*Spring FAST Assessment (all students grades 1-8)  
**5/3/21 - 5/14/21**

Assessment	Grades Administered	Estimated Administration Time
Math	Grades 1-8	30-40 minutes
Reading	Grades 1-8	30-40 minutes

**MAP:** (local assessment) WLS administers the MAP (Measuring Academic Progress) test, which is used by many other local schools in Minnesota and around the country. The reasons are numerous:

- To coordinate closely with local high schools for the purpose of comparing and sharing data;
- To administer a test which is more closely aligned with the Montessori curriculum and the Minnesota State Standards;
- To use a test which is closely connected to learning and to guiding subsequent teaching, rather than a score-oriented once-a-year dramatic and sometimes stressful event;
- To be better able to organize and display our testing data in a variety of ways for a variety of purposes;
- To shift the medium for testing from paper and pencil to the computer;

The MAP test is administered in Science for grades 4, 7, and 8. The tests are designed so that each task is isolated on the computer screen; that is, the student will see only words and pictures that pertain to the task at hand. The format is multiple choice. The test adapts to the level of the student as he/she proceeds. You can infer from that that the student's score is going to be more meaningful as a reflection of the level they were functioning at on the test, rather than a tally of right and wrong answers.

For more on the MAP test, visit this website:

<http://www.nwea.org/products-services/computer-based-adaptive-assessments>

\*\*\*Fall Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) (all students grades 4, 7 & 8)

**10.5.20 – 10.14.20**

Assessment	Grades Administered	Estimated Administration Time
Science	Grades 4, 7 and 8	45 – 90 minutes

\*\*\*Spring Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) (all students grades 4, 7 & 8)

**5.17.21- 5.21.21**

Assessment	Grades Administered	Estimated Administration Time
Science	Grades 4, 7 and 8	45 – 90 minutes

**ACCESS:** (MN required assessment) WLS administers the ACCESS to students eligible for English Language Services. ACCESS is the collective name for the suite of summative English language proficiency assessments. ACCESS is taken annually by English language learners in Kindergarten through Grade 8. Educators use ACCESS results, along with other resources, to make decisions about students' English academic language and to facilitate their language development. WIDA offers many resources to aid in educators' decision-making

\*\*\*ACCESS for English Language Learners

**3.1.21 - 3.17.21**

Assessment	Grades Administered	Estimated Administration Time
Reading - 3.1.21	All Grades	30 - 45 minutes
Writing - 3.8.21	All Grades	30 - 45 minutes
Listening – 3.9.21	All Grades	30 - 45 minutes
Speaking – 3.15.21	All Grades	30 - 45 minutes

**MCA:** (MN required assessment) The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment is a standardized test required by the state. Currently, the MCA requires all 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate in the Reading and Math Assessments. 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students also are required to participate in the Science Assessment.

The tests are administered in April and results are delivered to schools and families in late summer. The scores are reported to parents in a format that compares their child’s scores with scores of other children at their child’s age/grade level in the state as a proficiency test, in that it measures general levels of skill in general skill areas.

**\*\*\*MN Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) including the MN Test of Alternative Skills  
4.5.21 – 4.23.21**

Assessment	Grades Administered	Estimated Administration Time
Reading – 4.12.21 – 4.16.21	Grades 3 – 8	150 - 210 minutes
Math – 4.5.21 – 4.9.21	Grades 3 – 8	90 - 150 minutes
Science – 4.19.21 – 4.23.21	Grades 5 and 8	90-120 minutes

**Student Participation in Statewide Testing**

Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.31, subdivision 4a, requires the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) to publish a form for parents/guardians to complete if they refuse to have their student participate in state-required standardized assessments. It includes some basic information to help parents/guardians make informed decisions that benefit their child and their school and community. The form to meet this legislative requirement is available at the link below; it was updated in May 2018. When completed, it must be returned to your student's district; your student’s district may require additional information. The form is in the appendix or on the WLS website.