

BARRINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

261 Middle Highway, Barrington, Rhode Island 02806

Tel: 401-247-3160

Dear Parent(s),

During the weeks of September 15-24th, the 6th and 8th grade students will participate in a new assessment called the Measures of Academic Progress™ (MAP). The Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), a non-profit organization with over 40 years of experience, designed the assessment. Along with ten other Rhode Island districts, we are piloting the exam in subjects of Reading and Mathematics to support your child's academic growth, support instruction, and better align with state standards. Additionally, we use this information to support placement during the scheduling process for high school registration. We would like to share with you the impact this test will have on your child and our community of learners.

MAP tests are unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for your child's level of learning and provide immediate differentiation through computer administration. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude during testing. The greatest strengths of MAP tests are the short administration time and minimal use of class time. The data provided to teachers are accurate, formative representations of your child's growth and will allow the faculty to address specific concerns sooner.

You will receive a report showing your child's growth and the areas we will be addressing through the mail. As a pilot administration, we will be examining the results and determining the viability of future assessments with other districts. We will also provide informational resources that will fully explain the purposes of the tests and how we will use the information obtained to promote your child's learning. You may also learn more by downloading the NWEA Parent Toolkit located under Download Documents on the Barrington Middle School website.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this transition. We are truly excited to begin a new initiative that focuses on every child's individual growth and achievement. By collaborating to help all kids learn, parents and teachers can have a profound positive effect on the lives of our children. We appreciate your support in our community and look forward to partnering towards the success of all students.

Sincerely,

Richard Wheeler
Principal