

K-12 Milestones

Readiness: grade 12

Readiness: grade 11

High (9-12) - Pulling it all together, expanding content study, application of knowledge and skills to problem solving, analysis, and synthesis in preparation for college and career learning.

Successful Transition: grade 9

Readiness: grade 8

Middle (6-8) - Applying breadth and depth in literacy and mathematics as well as extending these skills to other content areas.

Successful Transition: grade 6

Readiness: grade 5

Intermediate (3-5) - Using tools to learn comprehension, calculations, and communications.

Successful Transition: grade 3

Readiness: grade 2

Primary Foundation (K-2) - Learning the basic tools-reading, writing, and computing.

Successful Transition: grade K

The Learning Journey

Ensuring Student Success

GUIDE OF MEASURES SUPPORTING
THE EVIDENCE OF LEARNING FRAMEWORK

**FOR PARENTS WITH STUDENTS IN
Middle School**
2017-2018

Middle School Mathematics

From Day of Week		5	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11
To Day of Week		8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	2	9	16	23	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	12
Grade	Assessment	SEP Marking Period 1 SEPTEMBER 5 – NOVEMBER 9						OCT Marking Period 2 NOVEMBER 10 – JANUARY 25						NOV Marking Period 3 JANUARY 29 – APRIL 9						DEC Marking Period 4 APRIL 10 – JUNE 12						JAN Marking Period 5 JUNE 13 – AUGUST 12															
6-8	PARCC																			PARCC 4/23/18 – 5/25/18																					
6-8	MAP-M	MAP-M 9/11/17 – 11/3/17						MAP-M 1/2/18 – 2/16/18						MAP-M 4/3/18 – 6/1/18																											
6	Math 6	MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check																		
7	Math 7	MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check																		
6-7	IM	MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check																		
8	Math 8	MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check																		
7-8	Algebra 1	MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check																		
8	Geometry	MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check			MCPS Progress Check																		

Measure	Time	Setting	Format	Purposes	Value of Feedback Instructional Decision Framework for Quality Assurance	How Results Are Reported to Parents
PARCC Math	Four 60-minute sessions = 240 minutes (Gr. 6 to 8) Three 90-minute sessions = 270 minutes (algebra and up)	Whole-class	Online	Required state assessment of mastery of grade-level mathematics content.	Informs teachers, schools, and parents whether a student has mastered grade-level content mathematics and how he or she is performing compared with peers in their grade level and school. Supports school- and district-wide planning efforts.	Individual student reports sent home to parents in early fall; also on <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal
MAP-M	Three 60-minute sessions = 180 minutes total/yr.	Whole-class	Online	Grade-level benchmark assessment used to measure growth in mathematics content standards; One of multiple data points for adjusting instruction to a child's need.	Computer-adaptive assessment that informs the teacher's instructional planning and professional development. Identifies a student's strengths and areas for improvement in operations & algebraic thinking, real & complex number systems, geometry, and statistics & probability.	Via <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal and/or via paper copy from school
Progress Checks	Four 45-minute sessions = 180 minutes total/yr.	Whole-class	Online or scan-in (paper/pencil)	District assessment of comprehension of the mathematics curriculum.	Informs instruction and provides feedback to students regarding their progress toward meeting grade-level standards. Supports differentiated professional development.	Via <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal and/or via paper copy from school

IM = Investigations into Mathematics
 MAP-M = Measures of Progress - Math
 PARCC = Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

Middle School Literacy

From Day of Week		5	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11																									
To Day of Week		8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	2	9	16	23	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	12																									
Grade	Assessment	SEP					OCT					NOV					NOV					DEC					JAN					JAN					FEB					MAR					APR					APR					MAY					JUN				
		Marking Period 1 SEPTEMBER 5 – NOVEMBER 9										Marking Period 2 NOVEMBER 10 – JANUARY 25										Marking Period 3 JANUARY 29 – APRIL 9										Marking Period 4 APRIL 10 – JUNE 12																																		
6-8	PARCC																															PARCC 4/23/18 – 5/25/18																																		
6-8	MAP-R	MAP-R 9/11/17 – 11/3/17										MAP-R 1/2/18 – 2/16/18										MAP-R 4/3/18 – 6/1/18																																												
6-8	Non-ESOL English						Common Writing Task										MCPS Progress Check										MCPS Progress Check										Common Writing Task																													
6-8	ESOL English						MCPS ESOL Progress Check										MCPS ESOL Progress Check										MCPS ESOL Progress Check										MCPS ESOL Progress Check																													

Measure	Time	Setting	Format	Purposes	Value of Feedback Instructional Decision Framework for Quality Assurance	How Results Are Reported to Parents
PARCC ELA/Literacy	Three 90-minute sessions = 270 minutes total/yr.	Whole-class	Online	Required state assessment of mastery of grade-level literacy content.	Informs teachers, schools, and parents whether a student has mastered grade-level content in ELA and how he or she is performing compared with peers in their grade level and school. Supports school- and district-wide planning efforts.	Individual student reports sent home to parents in early fall; also on <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal
MAP-R	Three 60-minute sessions = 180 minutes total/yr.	Whole-class	Online	Grade-level benchmark assessment used to measure growth in reading content standards; one of multiple data points for adjusting instruction to a child's need.	Informs grade- and school-level instructional planning and professional development. Identifies strengths and areas for improvement in reading literature, informational text, and vocabulary acquisition and use.	Via <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal and/or via paper copy from school
Common Writing Tasks (Grades 6-8)	Embedded in curriculum	Whole-class	Rubric score entered online	Literacy writing task as part of an instructional unit, typically as a multi-paragraph written composition. It involves feedback from the teacher and revision before final submission.	Informs daily instruction and provides feedback to students. Districtwide rubric aligns scoring and feedback with the rigors of literacy and writing standards.	Via <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal and/or via paper copy from school
Progress Check	Two 90-minute sessions = 180 minutes total/yr.	Whole-class	Online	Assessment of comprehension of the literacy curriculum, including skills in writing either an analysis or argument in response to one or more grade-level texts.	Informs a teacher's instruction and provides feedback to students regarding their progress toward meeting grade-level standards.	Via <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal and/or via paper copy from school
ESOL Progress Check	Four 45-minute sessions = 180 minutes total/yr.	Whole-class	Online	Assessment of comprehension of the literacy curriculum, including skills in writing either an analysis or argument in response to one or more grade-level texts (specifically for ESOL students).	Informs a teacher's instruction and provides feedback to students regarding their progress toward meeting grade-level standards.	Via <i>myMCPS</i> parent portal and/or via paper copy from school

ELA = English/Language Arts

ESOL = English for Speakers of Other Languages

MAP-R = Measures of Progress - Reading

PARCC = Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

TEACHING AND LEARNING is the core of our work and MCPS staff is focused on learning, accountability, and results. Improving literacy and mathematics ensures that all students have a solid foundation across all content areas and possess the critical and creative thinking skills necessary to be college and career ready. We must monitor our students' progress at each grade level and respond to their needs as necessary.

MONITORING ALL STUDENTS' PROGRESS during their Learning Journey requires that we focus on critical questions:

- **Are they learning?**
- **Are they learning enough?**
- **How do we know?**
- **If not, why not?**
- **What are we going to do about it?**

MCPS employs multiple sources of evidence and examines them at multiple points in time to answer these questions as students move from primary to intermediate, intermediate to middle school, middle school to high school, and high school and beyond.

The use of multiple measures ensures that monitoring students' achievement includes use of classroom-based and district-level multiple indicators and sources of evidence of student learning, as well as achievement on external assessments like MAP, PARCC, ACT, and SAT. The goal is college and career readiness for all our students.

CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF STUDENTS' PROGRESS ensures that they are provided with—

- **timely support,**
- **focused interventions,**
- **acceleration, and**
- **enrichment.**

WHAT ARE THE INSTRUCTIONAL GRADE LEVELS in MCPS's Learning Journey?

- **PRIMARY: Kindergarten through Grade 2**
- **INTERMEDIATE: Grades 3 through 5**
- **MIDDLE SCHOOL: Grades 6 through 8**
- **HIGH SCHOOL: Grades 9 through 12**

MCPS uses the Evidence of Learning Framework to define readiness and successful transition as indicators of each student's performance as he or she advances through the instructional levels. Readiness demonstrates a student's success on criteria at the end of Grades 2, 5, 8, and 11. It indicates that he or she is prepared to advance to the next level—for example, that a student finishing Grade 2 is ready to start Grade 3. Grade 11 readiness is used to determine readiness for college and career. We will need to provide additional supports for students who do not demonstrate readiness as they transition to the next grade.

MCPS defines **successful transition** to the next instructional level as how well our students are performing at the next level of learning. Transition data (gathered at midyear) allows schools to answer questions like—if a student has started middle school, is that student making the expected progress? **Successful transition** to the next instructional level is examined by student performance in Grades 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12.

The assessments listed in this guide are not new. MCPS has made great strides to reduce the amount of time students spend in testing to maximize their time spent in learning.



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