

Assessment Newsletter

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Happy Thanksgiving!

It's hard to believe that Thanksgiving is upon us. Where did the first two months of the school year go?!? Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable start to the holiday season.

NWEA mapGROWTH

Thank you all for your cooperation as our NWEA window experienced some technical difficulties this year. An outage of that nature has never happened in my experience, so I'm hopeful that it is a rare occurrence!

Fall Assessment Summaries were sent to school leaders and the academy boards. These summaries showed your average RIT score for each of the last three fall testing seasons, as well as the national norm.

Now that you have three fall data points, I strongly encourage you to dig into that data and see if you notice anything. Is there a goal area (strand) that has been consistently low all three years? Are you seeing a positive trend in your grade level fall scores?

NWEA™mapGROWTH™ is not just a classroom tool, it is a school tool as well. Looking at the data in this light can assist you as you make curricular and instructional decisions!



Upcoming Events

January 8

NWEA mapGROWTH Winter Window Opens

February 7

NWEA mapGROWTH Winter Window Closes

Applying Reports 2.0: NWEA Professional Development @ Crowne Plaza Lansing

NWEA™mapGROWTH™ Testing Windows

Fall:

September 9 – October 11, 2017 **DONE! GREAT JOB!**

Winter:

January 8 – February 7, 2018

Spring:

April 9 – June 8, 2018

Professional Development

SAVE THE DATE: We will be offering a NWEA™mapGROWTH™ Professional Development Session at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Lansing on February 7, 2018. This session will focus on the reports available, with special emphasis on the newest report: Student Profile Report. This will be a hands-on session, using your own data and focusing on taking that data and applying it in your classroom. The targeted audience will be teachers and instructional coaches.

Don't forget about our partnership with the Grand Valley State University Charter Schools Office to allow educators employed at Ferris-authorized academies to attend events free of charge. Their current list of offerings is live on their website:

www.gvsu.edu/cso/events-index.htm. Their offerings run the gamut from literacy to technology to data to science and many more! This is a wonderful opportunity, and we are excited to be continuing this partnership.

Additionally, if there is any professional development or training needs that you are looking for, please feel free to reach out. We may not be able to provide it for you, but we may be able to assist you in finding what you need.

Third Grade Reading Bill

Still have questions about the third grade reading bill? GVSU will be hosting informational workshops in February. [Register here](#). All academies should have administered the initial screener and intensive assessments, as well as developed the Reading Plans and notified parents of the results. A reminder that the Michigan Department of Education has put together a great resource site that can be found [here](#).

Early Mathematics Webinar Series

Larry Wyn, Math Consultant at the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District, is presenting a series of webinars (3:30-4:30pm) over the course of the year that will cover various elementary math topics—discussing the standards and reviewing problems that may be complex for students to understand. He and the MOISD have generously agreed to have these open to the teachers in our academies as well. You can find information about the series [here](#). Archived webinars will also be posted on YouTube. When I get the information on where to find the archives, I will pass that along.

The beautiful
thing about
learning is
that no one
can take it
away from you.

– B.B. King

380's

Notes

Thanks to all our schools who took advantage of our campus visitation program. We hope the students had a great time!

Please make sure you are **critically** reading the Spotlight each week. There are constant tips, tricks, and updates to next spring's testing gauntlet each week. You can find the most recent, as well as archived issues [here](#).