

# AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

**Bethany Orange Woodbridge**  
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



Dr. E. Marie McPadden  
Director of Curriculum & Staff Development

(203) 397-4812  
[marie.mcpadden@amityregion5.org](mailto:marie.mcpadden@amityregion5.org)

## A Parent Guide to STAR Assessments and Results for Grades 7 and 8

### ***What does STAR assess?***

STAR is a standardized universal assessment. STAR reading and mathematics assessments are online computer assessments administered to students in the fall, winter, and spring. The results provide teachers with key information that will support personalized learning by identifying students in need of specific skill development and/or remedial services, as well as identifying those students who have demonstrated mastery of learning. STAR is an adaptive assessment that addresses students at all levels.

### ***How can I access my child's STAR results?***

All results are posted in PowerSchool. To access these results, log into PowerSchool Unified Classroom, click on *Quick Links*, choose the *Portal Login Page*, and then select *Test Scores* and then click on *STAR*.

### ***How do I interpret the results?***

Two scores will be reported in PowerSchool to help you monitor your child's progress as measured by the STAR Reading and Math Assessments.

The first score you will see is a Scaled Score (SS). Scaled Scores (SS) are calculated based on the difficulty of questions on a student's test and the number of correct responses. STAR Scaled Scores range from 600 to 1400 for STAR Reading and STAR Math and can be used to compare an individual student's performance from fall to spring and from one grade to the next. Please note, STAR has moved to a "Unified Score" for its Scaled Score. Because of this move, please do not compare previous year's Scaled Scores with this year's Scaled Scores as they are on different scales. You may compare the Percentile from last year and this year. For more information on the Unified Scale, [click here](#).

The second score that will be reported is the Percentile Rank (PR). Percentile Rank provides a score that measures a student's performance compared to other students in the same grade *nationally*. The PR scores range from 1 to 99. For example, a student with a percentile rank of 60, performed as well as or better than 60 percent of students in the same grade level nationwide. The Amity district goal is the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile.

### ***What can I do to support my child's reading and math skill progress?***

Study Island and Khan Academy are two online programs that support student learning at no extra cost. Study Island provides a variety of subject areas to select, including SAT and ACT preparation materials and practice tests. All students have a Study Island account ([www.studyisland.com](http://www.studyisland.com)) to support ongoing progress and practice. The Study Island program contains lessons, practice problems, and quizzes in multiple content areas. [Click here for directions for using Study Island](#). **If you wish to use Study Island at home and your child does not know his or her log-in, contact the technology department at 203-397-6205.** Khan Academy ([www.KhanAcademy.org](http://www.KhanAcademy.org)) also provides practice across a variety of subject areas and includes engaging videos and tutorials.

### ***Who can I contact if I need further information?***

Dr. E. Marie McPadden  
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