

Mount Pleasant Central School District

District Office
825 Westlake Drive
Thornwood, NY 10594
Telephone: (914) 769-5500
Fax: (914) 769-3733

Dr. Adam Bronstein
Assistant Superintendent of
Curriculum, Instruction &
Administrative Services
abronstein@mtplcsd.org

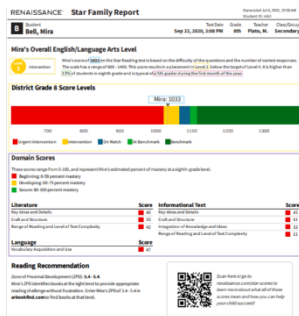
September 2023

Dear Mount Pleasant Families,

Beginning this October, students in grades K-10 will take the Star Universal Screening Benchmark Assessment in *Reading* and *Math* (in addition to *Early Literacy* at Hawthorne). These benchmark assessments are administered three times annually in the fall, winter and spring. In Mount Pleasant, they replace both AimswebPlus and MAP, which had been administered in prior years. Our districtwide planning team worked diligently to pilot various screening tools last year and identified the Star Assessment to best support students' overall academic performance.

Star Assessments are short screening tools (typically no more than 30 minutes), providing teachers with individualized data for each child in their classroom in both reading/literacy and math. The assessments are computer-based and adjust in difficulty. Using the results, teachers can then analyze their students' performance to adjust their instruction and monitor student growth over each administration throughout the course of the school year.

Once the assessments have been administered, a 'Star Family Report' will be posted in the [Parent Portal](#), from which you will be able to see your child's performance (a sample of which is on the left). Student performance will fall into any one of four categories:



- ❖ Below the 10th percentile (Red)
- ❖ Between the 10th and 24th percentile (Yellow)
- ❖ Between the 25th and 39th percentile (Blue)
- ❖ Above the 40th percentile (Green)

Each report also provides a breakdown of the skills and indicators by domain area within the subject assessed.

While we believe the Star Assessment will be valuable to our teachers and our families, please know that this is just one of many ways in which your children are assessed. We always look at multiple measures to develop a full picture of student performance and progress. Stay tuned for more information on the Star Assessment from your child's school in the coming weeks and months.

Sincerely,

Dr. Adam Bronstein
Assistant Superintendent