



May 7, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child recently took Montana's **Alternate Science Assessment (AMSA)**, which is given each year to students in grades 5, 8, and 11. This assessment measures how well students are meeting Montana's science standards in three areas: life science, physical science, and earth science. This test is designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities and helps measure progress toward Montana's academic standards using accessible materials and supports.

Enclosed with this letter, you'll find your child's *Individual Score Report (ISR)*. This report shows how your child performed on the assessment. Scores fall into one of four achievement levels:

Level 4 – Advanced progress toward future success

Level 3 – On track for future success

Level 2 – Needs more development to meet grade-level expectations

Level 1 – Needs significant improvement to meet expectations

Students who score at **Level 3 or 4** are considered *proficient* in science based on state standards.

Please remember: This test is just one piece of your child's learning. When combined with classroom work, report cards, and teacher observations, it helps us better understand your child's strengths and needs.

For more detailed information about the Alternate Science Assessment and how results are reported, visit our school's website at

<https://www.hellgate.k12.mt.us/departments/curriculum/assessment>.

Visit the state's [GEMS data warehouse](#) and [ESSA Report Card](#) website to see how our school performs over time and compares to others in Montana.

Sincerely,

Erin Ellis, Ed.D.

Hellgate Elementary School District #4

For more information:

Visit:

www.hellgate.k12.mt.us/departments/curriculum/assessment

AMSA Assessment updated May 7, 2025

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