Alexandria City Public Schools

Dear Family,

ACPS students in grades 2-12 reading and math courses participate in the MAP® Growth™ test from NWEA®. MAP Growth is administered three times a year, and scores help teachers check student performance by measuring achievement and growth. Teachers use results to tailor classroom lessons and set goals for students. Starting in Fall 2024, the Virginia Department of Education approved the division to administer MAP Growth as an alternative assessment to the Virginia Growth Assessment, which will allow for a more streamlined testing program for your child.

Your student's individual results are shown in the enclosed "Student Progress Report". This report provides a RIT score which allows you to track your child's progress across multiple years as well as how your student performed compared to how students performed nationally. You will also see scores in specific skills, or reporting categories, which are measured within the Virginia Standards of Learning. Instructional strands, called Goal Performance areas, are listed with descriptors such as High, High Average, Average, Low Average, and Low, which match the percentiles identified in the report chart.

MAP Growth measures academic achievement and growth starting from students' current performance level. Students cannot pass or fail the test and the scores are not used for grading.

We are truly excited to focus on your child's individual growth and achievement. For more information about MAP Growth, see the resources listed on our <MAP Resources Webpage https://bit.ly/4es14GV>. If you have any questions about the Student Progress Report or the instructional implications of your student's performance, please contact your student's school.

Sincerely,



Dr. Clinton Page, Chief of Accountability and Research
Department of Accountability and Research

Important MAP Growth Updates for 2025

We want to share some important updates about the MAP Growth test, which helps us track student progress.

MAP Growth is a computer-based test that adjusts the difficulty of questions based on your students' answers. The new version of MAP Growth focuses more on grade-level material. This helps teachers connect results more closely to what students are learning in class. Families also get a clearer picture of how students are doing compared to grade-level expectations.

2025 MAP Growth Norms
This year, NWEA updated the national benchmarks ("norms") for MAP Growth. These updates reflect student learning since the pandemic, changes in U.S. student populations, and improvements to the test, especially in math.

A key change is that the same test score (RIT) now matches a higher percentile rank than before. This means percentiles may look different compared to the 2020 norms used in previous years. Overall, scores across the country look lower, but there is more variety in how students perform. These new norms give teachers and families a clearer picture of student learning today.

What This Means for Families and Schools

- **Growth Percentiles:** Reading growth remains steady. Scores for Math may look a little different. In the fall, Math scores may be slightly lower, while in the spring, they are often higher than before. This means students may appear to "drop" from spring to fall, but then show strong growth during the school year. These patterns are typical and reflect the new test design—not a loss of learning.

- **Percentiles May Shift:** Families may notice that percentile ranks may either go up or down for different grades and content areas compared to past years because of the new norms and test format.

- **Program Placements:** For advanced programs or extra support, MAP Growth is one tool among many used in decision-making. The changes in scores and norms will be considered carefully to make fair decisions.

If you have questions, please contact your students' school. Thank you for partnering with us to support student learning.

Student Progress Report

Student, Sample
Student ID: 1234567890

Term Rostered:	Spring 2010-2011
District:	Sample School District
School:	Sample School
Growth Comparison Period:	Spring to Spring

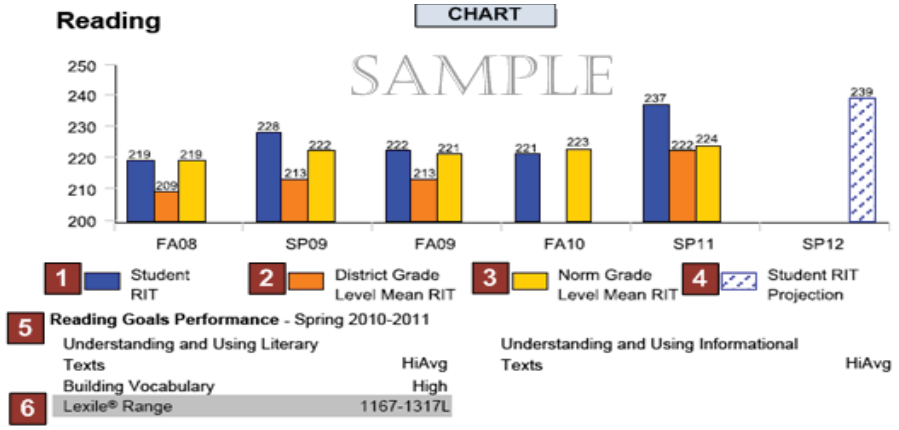
7

Quick Reference

This report displays current and past RIT scores of a student. RIT stands for Rasch Unit, which is a unit of measure that uses individual test question difficulty values to estimate student achievement.

The RIT is used to measure how "tall" a student is on the curriculum scale and scores can be compared to tell how much growth a student has made, similar to measuring height on a yardstick. This score is independent of the age or grade of the student but reflects the instructional level at which the student is currently performing, helping teachers plan instruction at an appropriate level for the student.

If you have questions about this report, please contact your child's school.



14

8 Term/ Year	9 Grade	10 RIT (+/- Std Err)	11 RIT Growth	12 Growth Projection	13 Percentile Range
SP11	10	233-**237**-240			71-**79**-83
FA10	10	217-**221**-224			34-**44**-52
SP10	*9*	*218-**222**-225*	SAMPLE		*38-**48**-55*
FA09	9	219-**222**-226			44-**52**-62
SP09	8	224-**228**-231	11	4	54-**65**-72
FA08	8	216-**219**-222			41-**49**-57
SP08	7	213-**217**-220			32-**43**-51
FA07	7	216-**220**-223			49-**60**-68
WI07	6	212-**216**-219			44-**55**-63
FA06	6	217-**221**-224			63-**73**-79
SP06	5	211-**214**-218	8	8	46-**55**-66
FA05	5	204-**207**-210			41-**50**-58
SP05	4	203-**206**-210			40-**48**-59
FA04	4	200-**203**-206			51-**59**-67

RESULTS TABLE

Chart Legend

1 Student RIT – The student's RIT score on each growth test.

2 District Grade Level Mean RIT – The average RIT score for students in the same school district and same grade that were tested at the same time as the student named on this report. Lack of the District Grade Level Mean RIT bar indicates that the RIT is not available due to the district testing window not being closed.

3 Norm Grade Level Mean RIT – The average RIT score for students in the same grade and tested in the same term as observed in the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms study. Lack of the Norm Grade Level Mean RIT bar indicates that the RIT is not available due to no norm data being available for that particular grade and/or subject.

4 Student RIT Projection – The projected RIT score of the student for when they take a future test. This projected RIT score is based on the student's actual RIT score in the first term of the Growth Comparison Period and the average RIT growth of students who were in the same grade and tested in the same term as observed in the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms* study.

5 Goals Performance – Each goal area included in the test is listed along with a goal range or descriptive adjective of the student's score. The possible descriptors are Low (percentile < 21), LoAvg (percentile between 21 and 40), Avg (percentile between 41 and 60), HiAvg (percentile between 61 and 80), and High (percentile > 80). An asterisk (*) is displayed if the goal score was not able to be calculated due to too many items answered incorrectly or too few items available in the RIT range assessed.

6 Lexile® Range – This range appears when the student has taken a reading test. You can use it with online resources to identify appropriately challenging books, periodicals, and other reading material for the student. Lexile® is a trademark of MetaMetrics, Inc.

Results Table Legend

7 Growth Comparison Period – The terms that define the time frame for which the RIT Growth, Growth Projection and Student RIT Projection value(s) are calculated.

8 Term/Year – The test term (FA=fall, SP=spring, WI=winter, SU=summer) and the year when the student took the test.

9 Grade – Grade of the student when the test was taken.

10 RIT – The middle number is this student's RIT score. The numbers on either side of the RIT score define the score +/- the standard error. If retested soon, the student's score would fall within this range most of the time.

11 RIT Growth – Presents the student's growth in RIT points made between growth tests in the Growth Comparison Period.

12 Growth Projection – The average growth of students who were in the same grade and began the same term at a similar RIT score according to the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms* study.

13 Percentile Range – The number in the middle is this student's percentile rank, or the percentage of students that had a RIT score less than or equal to this student's score according to the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms study. The numbers on either side of the percentile rank define the percentile range. If retested soon, this student's percentile rank would be within this range most of the time.

14 Non-growth tests – Tests may be taken from time to time for informational purposes only and are not used to determine student growth. These tests are presented in gray italicized text.

* The 2011 Normative Data Overview provides an overview of the NWEA RIT Scale Norms Study including the scope of the study, the methodology used, and ways norms can be used by educators.

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