

West Northfield District 31 2026-2027 Assessments

This document includes helpful information regarding district assessments. Click on the links below to access specific information.

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ASSESSMENT DESCRIPTIONS

YELLOW = State / National Required Assessment **BLUE** = Standardized Assessments chosen by the district/District 225

ASSESSMENT	TAKEN BY	PURPOSE	Time Required	DESCRIPTION
Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS)	English Learners in Grades K-8	State Accountability, Progress Monitoring	The ACCESS is given in multiple sessions and in total can take 1.5 to 4 hours to complete.	The ACCESS is an assessment of language proficiency given to students identified as being English Learners (ELs). Students identified as English Learners must take an English language proficiency exam once per year until English proficiency is reached. Results are used to determine supports and services, monitor student progress, and for state accountability reports.
aimswebPlus	Grades K-5	Benchmarking, Local Accountability, Eligibility for Services, Program Evaluation	The amount of time that it takes to complete aimswebPlus Oral Reading Fluency assessment takes about 2 minutes per student and the math concept skills takes about 5 minutes.	aimswebPlus includes a series of measures that assess oral reading fluency and math concept skills. Parts of the assessment are given one on one, but the majority of the assessment is taken online.
Brief Screener for Adolescent Depression	Grades 6 - 8	Screening to identify adolescent depression	The screener takes up to 5 minutes to complete.	The BSAD is a self-administered survey used as part of the SOS (Signs of Suicide) program. Responses are reviewed for potential depression and suicide risk.
Constitution Test	Grade 7	State Accountability	This assessment takes one to two class periods.	Illinois requires that students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the Illinois and U.S. Constitutions before entering 9th grade.

Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)	Grades 4 & 5	Supports classroom instruction, Placement in ALP Classes	There are three subtests and in total it takes about 90 minutes to complete.	The CogAT is a group administered measure of ability. The results of this assessment are used to support classroom instruction and differentiation. It is also one of the indicators of readiness considered for Advanced Learning Program placement.
WayPoints Social Emotional Screener	Grades K - 8	Screening to identify students with social / emotional needs	Screening time is approximately 4 minutes for teacher-reported grades, and 10 minutes for student self-reported grades.	WayPoints measures student's grasp of important skills that will help them succeed during their school years. The 6 assessed skills include: self awareness, adaptability, empathy, collaboration, agency, and purpose. WayPoints data can be used to pinpoint each child's specific strengths and opportunities for growth in each of the measured skills. This data is used by classroom teachers and student support personnel to support students continued development of essential life skills.
Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)	Students with significant disabilities Grades 3-8	State Accountability	The assessment is completed one on one over time and in total takes about six hours to complete.	The DLM is the alternative assessment required by the state for students whose cognitive abilities prevent their participation in the state assessment. The assessment measures reading / language arts, mathematics, and science. Results are used for state accountability reports.
Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)	Grades 3-8	State Accountability	There are typically two test units for English language arts and three test units for math, with a total test time of approximately 5 hours.	The IAR is a standards-based assessment that measures both simple and complex expectations in the areas of English language arts and math.
Illinois Fitness Assessment (IFA)	Grades 3-8	State Accountability	Testing time is approximately 15 minutes.	Components of the IFA include aerobic capacity, flexibility and muscular endurance.
Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)	Grades 5 & 8	State Accountability	While it is untimed, it is estimated to take 120 minutes in total.	The ISA is a computer based test that measures mastery of science standards. Students in Illinois are required to take this assessment in the 5th and 8th grades. Results are used for state accountability reports. The entire assessment is in three segments.
Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS)	Kindergarten Students	State Accountability	Data is collected through observation conducted by the classroom teacher.	KIDS provides an opportunity for Kindergarten teachers to rate students in several readiness domains including Approaches to Learning and Self-Regulation, Social and Emotional Development, Language and Literacy Development, and Cognition: Math.

Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)	Grades 1-8	Benchmarking, Local Accountability, Eligibility for Services, Program Evaluation	The amount of time it takes to complete the MAP Growth can vary by grade but students take 2-3 subtests that each typically takes 60 minutes.	MAP is a computer based test that measures academic skills in the areas of reading and math. The results are used to determine the need for enrichment or intervention.
Numeracy Readiness Screener	Kindergarten Students	Benchmarking, Local Accountability, Eligibility for Services	5 minutes	The Numeracy Readiness Screener is designed to be administered to preschool or beginning of the year kindergarteners. This 5 minute assessment focuses on the foundational numeracy skills that all students should have in place by the time they begin kindergarten.
PreACT8	Grade 8	This assessment is required by the high school to assist with class placement.	130 minutes	The PreACT8 is a practice version of the ACT exam. PreACT assessments offer students an early experience with ACT test items, provides a predicted ACT test score, and offers a wealth of information to help students get the start they need to be college ready. The test itself includes four timed sections: English, Math, Reading, and Science
iReady Diagnostic	Grades K - 5	Diagnostic assessment aligned to our Tier 1 math resource	The amount of time it takes to complete the diagnostic can vary by grade but students typically take 45 - 90 minutes	The iReady Diagnostic assessment is an online assessment used in conjunction with our Tier 1 math resource to assess math skills. It is designed to adapt to each student's individual skill level, providing teachers with insights into their strengths and areas for growth, allowing teachers to better differentiate instruction.
Scales for Identifying Gifted Students	Grades 4-5	Screening to identify students for the Advanced Learning Program	There is no testing time for students because teachers complete the scale.	In grades 4-5, teachers complete the SIGS scales in the areas of language arts and math. The scales include statements about student learning that teachers rate using a likert scale.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

Following each benchmark window, student results are shared with parents via secure email.

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Previous Year IAR Previous Year ACCESS (for MLs only) Previous Year DLM (for specific students) Previous Year ISA Fall NWEA MAP iReady Diagnostic (For Families Report)	PreACT8 (grade 8 only) Winter NWEA MAP iReady Diagnostic (For Families Report)	Spring NWEA MAP CogAT (grades 4 & 5 only) PreACT8 (grade 8 only)

2026-2027 ASSESSMENT DATES BY SCHOOL- Winkelman

For approximate testing times, see the [assessment descriptions](#) above. Dates are subject to change.

Dates	Assessment	Grade Levels
August 24 - September 4	MODEL Testing (ML students)	K - 5
August 24 - September 18	iReady Beginning of the Year Diagnostic	K - 5
August 31 - September 4	Kindergarten Numeracy Readiness Screener	K
August 31 - September 4 <i>Make-ups week of September 8</i>	MAP Reading and Math	1-5
August 31 - September 11	AimswestPlus	K-5
September/October	Illinois Fitness Assessment	3-5
September 28 - October 9	WayPoints Social Emotional Screener	K-5
October 16	Last day to gather data for KIDS assessment	K
December 7 - December 11 <i>Make-ups week of December 14</i>	MAP Reading and Math	1-5
December 7 - December 14	AimswestPlus	K-5
January 6 - January 15	WayPoints Social Emotional Screener	K-5
January - February	ACCESS for MLs	K-5
February 23 - February 25	CogAT	4 & 5
February 1 - February 11	iReady Middle of the Year Diagnostic	K - 5
March/April	SIGS	4 & 5
April/May	Illinois Fitness Assessment	3-5
April 5 - April 9 (tentative) <i>Make-ups week of April 16</i>	Illinois Assessment of Readiness, DLM	3-5

April 12 - April 16 (tentative)	Illinois Science Assessment	5
April 26 - May 7	WayPoints Social Emotional Screener	K-5
April 26-May 14	aimswebPlus	K-4
May 3 - May 7 <i>Make-ups week of May 10</i>	MAP Reading and Math	1-5

2026-2027 ASSESSMENT DATES BY SCHOOL- Field

Note that individual students are not testing all day on each of the dates listed.

For approximate testing times, see the [assessment descriptions](#) above. Dates are subject to change.

Dates	Assessment	Grade Levels
August 31 - September 4 <i>Make-ups week of September 8</i>	MAP Reading and Math	6 & 7
August 31 - September 11	AimswebPlus	6-8 (for progress monitoring only)
Week of September 29 (6th grade) Week of October 20 (8th grade) Week of November 10 (7th grade)	Brief Screener for Adolescent Depression	6 - 8
September 14 - September 25	WayPoints Social Emotional Screener	6-8
September/October	Illinois Fitness Assessment	6-8
October (anticipated)	IL & U.S. Constitution	7
October 14	PreACT8	8
December 7 - December 11 <i>Make-ups week of Dec 14</i>	MAP Reading and Math	6 & 7
December 7 - December 14	AimswebPlus	6-8 (for progress monitoring only)
January 6 - January 15	WayPoints Social Emotional Screener	6-8
January -February	ACCESS for MLs	6-8
March/April (exact date TBD)	PreACT8	8
April 5 - April 9 (tentative) <i>Make-ups week of April 16</i>	Illinois Assessment of Readiness, DLM	6-8
April 12 - April 16 (tentative)	Illinois Science Assessment	8
April/May	Illinois Fitness Assessment	6-8
April 26-May 14	aimswebPlus	6-8 (for progress monitoring only)
April 26 - May 7	WayPoints Social Emotional Screener	6-8
May 3 - May 7 (<i>Make-ups week of May 10</i>)	MAP Reading and Math	6 & 7

