

Secondary VASD Assessment Plan 2026-27

Data populates into **NextPath**

Staff enter data into **NextPath**

***School contacts for each assessment will be communicated at the school level**

Assessment Name & District Contact	Description	Grade/s	Dates/Window
Star District Contact: Sandra Buxton	Star is a benchmark assessment designed to assess student performance in the Common Core standards and set learning goals for the time between one assessment administration and the next. Star is a computer-adaptive assessment that takes ~20 minutes to complete each. For every Star assessment, a child receives a scaled score (SS), which is based on the difficulty of the questions and the number of correct answers. Scaled scores are useful for comparing performance over time and across grades. Reading -Required for all 6-8th grade learners -TWI classrooms also administer Star Reading Spanish to 6-11th graders Math -Required for all 6-8th gr learners Star Accommodation Document	6th-8th	Fall assessment window • Sept. 9 - Sept. 30 Winter assessment window • Dec. 1- Jan. 8 Spring assessment window • April 16 - May 28
ACCESS District Contact: Lisette Venegas	ACCESS meets U.S. federal requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for monitoring and reporting English Language Learners' progress toward English language proficiency. It tests students' language in the four domains: Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing. Portions of ACCESS are delivered in group settings with others delivered one on one with the student. Each student will spend ~4.5 hours completing the various components of the ACCESS test.	6th-12th	December 1 - January 29

STAMP District Contact: Lisette Venegas	STAMP is an online, progress monitoring assessment given in our Two Way Immersion (TWI) classrooms to measure Spanish/Mandarin language proficiency. STAMP data supports teachers in developing language learning outcomes for classrooms, groups of students, and individual students, putting all students on the path to earning the Seal of Biliteracy through our VASD TWI program. STAMP also serves as a measure of TWI program effectiveness. STAMP data is immediately available online		February 15- March 5 Feb 20th and March 6th (Seal of Biliteracy students only)
Wisconsin Forward or Dynamic Learning Maps District Contact: Sandra Buxton or Rachelle McCullough (DLM)	WI Forward is the state required, computer-administered assessment designed to gauge how well students are doing in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. These standards outline what students should know and be able to do in order to be college and career ready. The Forward Exam is administered online in the spring of each school year at: • grades 6-8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics • grade 8 in Science • grades 8 and 10 in Social Studies DPI estimates the exam will take 3.5 to 7 hours to administer depending on the grade level and number of content areas administered. DLM is the alternative state required assessment for students with identified needs through IEP. This data is not transferred to EduCLimber.	6th, 7th, 8th, & 10th gr	March 15- April 23
ACT District Contact: Cami Scott	The ACT helps students understand what they need to learn next so they can build rigorous high school course plans and identify career areas that align with their interests. Scores from ACT can be used by students for a variety of purposes including college admission, scholarships, course placement, and NCAA eligibility. Students may take the ACT either on a National Test Date or the Wisconsin State Test Date.	11th Grade	March 11 March 16 (makeup date)
PreACT Secure District Contact: Cami Scott	PreACT Secure replaces ACT Aspire and is an online summative assessment, aligned to the ACT test and the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards, that measures what students have learned in the areas of English, Reading, Mathematics, and Science. PreACT Secure scores predict how students will perform on the ACT when they reach 11th grade and their readiness for college-level coursework.	9th Grade 9th Grade &	Sept. 15, 17, 23 (9th grade) April 6 April 13 (makeup date) April 6

		10th Grade	April 13 (makeup date)
Civics Graduation Exam District Contact: Julie Berndt	Wisconsin state law (Wis.Stats. 118.33(1m)(a)1) requires all school districts to give a 100 question civics exam to all students. The questions are very specific: they are the exact 100 questions that the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) utilizes for the US citizenship test. Students must answer 60 questions correctly in order to meet the graduation requirement.	All prospective graduates	
FastBridge District Contact: Sandra Buxton	FastBridge is a diagnostic and progress monitoring tool used to track growth for students receiving a Tier II, Tier III, or special education reading intervention. FastBridge measures rate of improvement to determine whether targeted instruction and interventions should be maintained, modified, or intensified to close achievement gaps.	6th-12th gr Based on Star data	Bi-Weekly or Progress Monitoring FastBridge Windows Fall assessment window • Sept. 15- Oct. 29 Winter assessment window • Jan. 6- Feb. 2 Spring assessment window • April 19- May 30
Student Experience Survey District Contact: Marcie Pfeifer-	Glimpse on NextPath. Student perceptions of their experience in VASD. Data from this assessment is available each Spring	6th-12th gr	December 1 - December 18

Soderbloom			
Family Experience Survey District Contact: Marcie Pfeifer-Soderbloom	Data from this assessment is available each Spring	Families PK-12	December 1 - December 18
Staff Experience Survey District Contact: Marcie Pfeifer-Soderbloom	Data from this assessment is available each Spring	VASD Staff	January 19 - February 5
Dane County Youth Assessment District Contact: Adam Zingsheim	The Dane County Youth Assessment is a collaborative, county-wide survey administered every 3 years to secondary students in public and private schools across Dane County. It collects anonymous data directly from youth regarding their behaviors, attitudes, and experiences related to mental health, substance use, safety, and family support systems. This comprehensive data is then utilized by school districts, local governments, and community organizations to secure grant funding, shape public policy, and design targeted support programs for area youth.	6th-12th gr	January - March
Advanced Placement Testing District Contact: Cami Scott	Advanced Placement (AP) is the most widely recognized and accepted college-level academic program available to high school students in the nation. With qualifying exam scores, students can earn credit, advanced college placement, or both at the majority of colleges in the United States and Canada Research consistently shows that students who are successful in high school AP classes experience greater success in college than students who do not participate in AP. The rich course material, classroom discussions, and demanding assignments in AP classes help students develop the knowledge and critical thinking skills expected of college students. Even colleges and universities who do not accept AP credits recognize the rigor of AP and look for such courses when reviewing students' transcripts during the college admission process. VAHS offers 23 AP Courses.		May 3-14

SEL Screener - Behavior and Emotional Screening System District Contact: Adam Zingsheim	The BASC-3 Behavioral and Emotional Screening System (BESS) is a brief and reliable assessment tool used to quickly identify students who may be at risk for behavioral and emotional concerns. The self-report forms, which take about 5-10 minutes for students to complete, help schools identify students who might need additional support services. The screener is a Tier 1 tool that helps educators and administrators make data-driven decisions to support students' well-being.	6th-12th gr	Fall Oct. 12-27 Winter January 11-27 Spring April 26-May 11
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Scheduling Related to Holidays Associated with Religion Assessments or exams of any type may not be scheduled on the following dates out of respect for our families' diverse religious faiths and their "high holy days."	VASD School Year Calendar Associated Administrative Rule: 419 - Scheduling Related to Holidays Associated with Religion List of Holidays Associated with Religion
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