Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s) -

Fairfield Public Schools' assessment calendar includes Acadience Reading for grades K-3 as the universal screener or benchmark assessment for reading. Acadience Reading is administered in the fall, winter, and spring, and may also be used in between testing windows to monitor your child's response to instruction.

The Acadience Reading score report will provide you with information about your child's overall reading proficiency (Reading Composite Score or RCS), as well as how your child is doing in learning essential reading skills. These data are indicators of future reading success and will be used alongside other assessments and evidence to inform instruction and identify students who may be at risk.

Acadience Reading consists of six measures that serve as indicators of essential early literacy skills. A teacher administers these measures one on one with each student, with the exception of Maze which is administered to the class at one time.

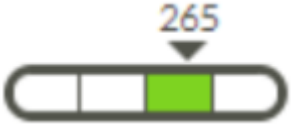
First Sound Fluency (FSF) is an indicator of phonemic awareness (ability to hear, identify, move or change sounds or phonemes in spoken words) in **grade K**.	Teacher says fish, student says /f/.
Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (PSF) is also an indicator of phonemic awareness in **grades K-1**.	Teacher says flag, student says /f/ /l/ /a/ /g/.
Letter Naming Fluency (LNF) is an indicator of risk in **grades K-1**.	Student identifies lowercase and uppercase letters on a page e.g., x L T E f.
Nonsense Word Fluency (NWF) is an indicator of how well a student can connect letters with sounds and blend those sounds into short vowel words in **grades K-2**. Two	Student reads from a page containing nonsense words e.g., kif, uc, bov.

scores are established from this assessment: the correct number of letter sounds identified and the number of whole words read.	
Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) is an indicator of advanced phonics and word attack skills, accurate and fluent reading of grade level text, and reading comprehension in **grades 1-3.** Four scores are established from this assessment: number of correct words read, percentage of accuracy, number of words student retells that are related to the passage, as well as a score that indicates the quality of the retell.	The teacher presents the student with a grade level passage. Student reads for one minute and then retells what was read. This is done three times and the median scores are recorded.
Maze is an indicator of reading comprehension in **grade 3.**	Students silently read a grade level passage and select the word that makes the most sense in the passage each time they are presented with a choice of three words. On her way home, she [chair / sleep / saw] an ice cream truck.

Your child's score for these measures will be color-coded on the report to indicate where in relation to the benchmark each score is. The colors correspond to a benchmark range from Above Benchmark to Well Below Benchmark as indicated at the bottom of the score report.

You can see how close to benchmark your child is on each measure by looking at the position of the arrow. If the arrow is to the left of the colored score section, the score is at the lower end of that range. If the arrow is in the middle or to the right of the colored score section, the score is in the middle or at the higher end of that range.





Another data point that is reported on the teacher's report is a student's Lexile reading measure which can be used as additional information for instructional planning. Your child's teacher can share your child's Lexile reading measure with you. The Lexile Framework for Reading is a scientific approach to measure a student's reading ability as well as the difficulty of a text. When a student takes an assessment such as Acadience Reading or NWEA MAP Reading, a Lexile measure is reported.

The Connecticut State Department of Education's page on Lexiles for reading is here.

A video link that explains more about Lexiles is here. References and resources that support the video are here.

Finally, Research on Lexile text ranges that are aligned with the Common Core State Standards is here.

It is important to remember that Acadience Reading data are only one part of your child's assessment profile. Other assessments and classroom work are important to consider for instructional planning, as well.