



Mendham Township Elementary School Wide Assessments 2026-2027

Annual Parent and Guardian Notification

This schedule provides families with information about the statewide and commercially developed standardized assessments planned for MTES during the 2026-2027 school year. Assessment results are one of several measures educators use to understand student progress, plan instruction, and identify areas for support or enrichment.

Please note: Dates may change due to school closures, student absences, or updated State guidance. Families will be notified of material changes. “By” dates identify the deadline for completing each school-based assessment window.

Schoolwide Assessment Calendar

Assessment	Grades and Subjects	Beginning of Year	Middle of Year	End of Year
DIBELS 8 / Acadience	K-4 literacy	By Oct. 1	By Jan. 29	By May 28
LinkIt Benchmark	K-4 ELA and math	By Oct. 1	By Jan. 29	By May 28
Quick Spelling Screener	K-4 spelling	By Oct. 1	By Jan. 29	By May 28
Renaissance Star	Grades 2-4 reading and math	By Sept. 25	By Jan. 29	By May 28
Renaissance Star	Grade 1 reading and math	Not administered	By Jan. 29	By May 28
Big Ideas Math Benchmark	K-4 mathematics	By Sept. 18	By Jan. 29*	By May 28
Fact Fluency	Grade 1 mathematics	Baseline Jan. 15	March 25	May 28
Fact Fluency	Grades 2-4 mathematics	Sept. 18 / Nov. 13	Jan. 15 / March 25	May 28
CogAT	Grade 2 cognitive abilities	Not administered	Feb. 17-19	Not administered
SAGES / Profile of Creative Abilities	Grade 2 gifted and talented screening	Not administered	March-April	Not administered

* Grade 1 Big Ideas Math middle-of-year benchmark is due February 19.

NJSLA Adaptive Grades 3 and 4

ELA Session 1	ELA Session 2	ELA Writing	Math Session 1	Math Session 2
May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14

Testing time: 75 minutes for each ELA reading session, 90 minutes for ELA writing, and 75 minutes for each mathematics session.

Assessment Information for Families

Assessment	Purpose, Format and Time	Requirement and Results
DIBELS 8 / Acadience K-4 Literacy	Brief literacy screening measures used to identify strengths and instructional needs. Kindergarten and Grade 4 are administered on paper and recorded in LinkIt; Grades 1-3 are administered through mCLASS and recorded in LinkIt. Time varies by grade and measure; most measures are brief and may be given individually.	Local district assessment supporting universal literacy screening. Families may receive results through school reports, conferences, or direct communication from the teacher following each window.
LinkIt Benchmark K-4 ELA and Math	Standards-aligned benchmark assessments used to monitor progress across the year. Kindergarten and Grade 1 use paper forms; Grades 2-4 test online. Timing varies by grade and subject and may occur during more than one regular instructional period.	Locally required. Results are reviewed by teachers and may be shared through conferences, progress reports, or individual communication after each window.
Quick Spelling Screener K-4 Spelling	Paper-based developmental spelling inventory used to identify spelling features students have mastered and those requiring instruction. Timing varies by grade; typically completed during a regular literacy period.	Locally required. Results inform word-study and phonics instruction and may be discussed with families through conferences or teacher communication.
Renaissance Star Grades 1-4 Reading and Math	Computer-adaptive reading and mathematics assessment. Administered to Grades 2-4 in all three windows and to Grade 1 at midyear and end of year. Each assessment is generally completed within one regular instructional period.	Locally required. Family reports may be provided after testing windows and results may be reviewed during conferences or through teacher communication.
Big Ideas Math Benchmark K-4 Mathematics	Curriculum-aligned mathematics benchmark administered on paper and recorded in LinkIt. Grade 1 benchmark data are entered in LinkIt. Timing varies by grade and is generally within one mathematics period.	Locally required. Results guide mathematics instruction and may be shared through conferences, school reports, or teacher communication.
Fact Fluency Grades 1-4 Mathematics	Brief paper-based checks of grade-appropriate computational fluency. Multiple checkpoints are used to monitor growth. Testing time varies by grade and measure and is generally only a portion of a mathematics period.	Locally required. Results are recorded in LinkIt, used to guide instruction, and may be discussed with families through conferences or teacher communication.

Gifted and Talented Screening

Assessment	Purpose, Format and Time	Requirement and Results
CogAT Grade 2	Cognitive abilities assessment administered on February 17, 18, and 19. The assessment measures verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning. Testing is scheduled across three sessions; the exact time may vary by session.	Locally required as part of the Grade 2 gifted and talented screening process. Results are reviewed with other screening information and are communicated to families through the school's gifted and talented identification process.
SAGES and Profile of Creative Abilities Grade 2	Gifted and talented screening assessments administered during March and April. SAGES examines academic and reasoning abilities, while the Profile of Creative Abilities provides information about creative thinking. Timing varies by assessment and may occur across multiple sessions.	Locally required as part of the Grade 2 gifted and talented screening process. Results are considered with multiple measures and are communicated to families through the school's gifted and talented identification process.

State Assessments

Assessment	Students and Dates	Testing Time	Requirement and Results
NJSLA Adaptive ELA and Math	All students in Grades 3 and 4, except students participating in DLM. MTES testing dates are May 10-14, 2027. Online administration through the State assessment platform.	ELA: 75 + 75 + 90 minutes. Math: 75 + 75 minutes. Students receive the full time for each session and approved extended-time accommodations when applicable.	Required by State and federal law. Individual Student Reports will be shared with families within 30 days of the district receiving the final reports from NJDOE.
Dynamic Learning Maps ELA and Math	Eligible students in Grades 3 and 4 who meet the State participation criteria for the alternate assessment. State window: April 5-May 28, 2027.	Administered in a series of short testlets, generally about 10-15 minutes each. Total time varies by student and blueprint requirements.	Required by State and federal law for eligible students. Individual results are shared with families after the district receives final reports.
WIDA ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS	Eligible multilingual learners in Kindergarten through Grade 4. State window: February 1-April 2, 2027. Measures listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English.	Time varies by grade, proficiency level, domain, and format. Testing is scheduled across several sessions as appropriate for the student.	Required by State and federal law for eligible multilingual learners. Individual score reports are shared with families after results are received.

Accommodations and Accessibility

Students receive accommodations and accessibility features documented in an Individualized Education Program, Section 504 Plan, or multilingual learner plan, as applicable. State assessments are administered in accordance with current NJDOE accessibility and accommodations guidance. For school-based assessments, staff provide approved supports consistent with each student's plan and the purpose of the measure.

Sample Questions Answers and Results

State assessments: NJSLA-A practice tests and tools are available at <https://nj.portal.cambiumast.com/practice-tests.html>. Additional information is available through the NJDOE assessment website at <https://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/adaptive/>.

School-based assessments: Families may contact the classroom teacher or main office for available family resources or sample formats. Secure operational test questions and answer keys may not be released. Results are shared after each testing window through available family reports, conferences, progress reports, or direct communication from the teacher.

Questions Please contact your child's teacher or the MTES main office at (973) 543-7107.