

November 15, 2021

Dear TA Parents and Families,

Assalamu Alaikum! I pray this finds each of you in the best of health and faith!

As you are all aware, we have completed our first period of MAP testing here at our school. MAP stands for Measures of Academic Progress, and it is a test that is given to millions of students across schools in the United States and in countries worldwide. Here at TA, we administer the test 3 times a year-in the Fall, Spring, and Summer.

The MAP test is a standardized test which is designed to measure a student's performance in a specific subject area, as well as growth in these same disciplines over time. Here at our school, we administer the test to grades K-8 in *Math* and *Reading*. We administer the *Language* MAP test to students in grades 2-8. In addition, we have started to administer the *Science* MAP test for students in grades 3-8.

The MAP test does NOT measure intelligence. We do not wish for parents to stress or develop anxiety about their child's test scores, or to assume that these scores reflect who their children are as learners or people, whether the scores appear "high" or "low." We use the MAP test results at our school simply to inform instruction, teaching, and learning in the classroom. Teachers use these results to better understand a child's individual learning needs, areas of strengths, and areas for increased improvement. As an administrator, I use the scores to understand how we are performing academically as a school, and within our classrooms. MAP scores are simply one piece of data we use to improve and inform our academic program here at TA, and to better serve our students' needs.

Here are some guidelines and information for our parents when reading your child's MAP report (attached):

- MAP uses an RIT scale to measure performance in a subject area; the RIT scale simply uses an equivalent metric to produce an RIT score. RIT scores can range from 100-350.
- Your child's individual RIT score (the score that says how they performed) is defined as Student RIT.
- The District Grade Level Mean RIT is referring to the average of your child's classmates' scores only, in that subject area.
- The Norm Grade Level Mean is referring to the average of all the children in the United States' scores, in that subject area.
- Next, MAP takes your child's scores and similar scores of children across the United States (of your child's age/grade level), and looks at how *most* of those children performed on the MAP test *the next time it was administered* to them. This is the *projected growth* you see on the report. Generally, this is used as a goal for individual students.
- The percentile range indicates the percentage of students (in the United States) that your child scored higher than. For example, if the percentile range was 55%, this means that your child received a higher score than 55% of students in the United States on this section of the test.
- On your child's MAP report, you will also see general categories that your child was tested on and a classification of where your child performed more specifically in those areas, according to all students who've taken the MAP test in the United States (from low to high).
- Reports of returning students will reflect all of the child's scores since they've been with TA.
- Finally, note that SP=Spring, FA=Fall, and W=Winter. Numbers following these abbreviations indicate the year the test was taken. For example, SP20 indicates the test score from Spring, 2020.

I hope that this helps you to better understand your child's MAP report. Please do reach out with any further questions. Thank you and jazakum Allahu khairun.

Hagar Aboubakr Head of School