



Academy For Integrated Arts  
7910 Troost Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64131  
phone: (816) 444-1720 fax: (816) 444-1721

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This letter was sent home to our 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade students last week.

We are sending a text blast to remind all 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade families that testing begins tomorrow, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Please read below for more information. Thank you!

April 19, 2017

Dear Families,

As you are probably aware, your 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and/or 6<sup>th</sup> grader will be taking the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) Grade-Level Assessments, beginning April 25<sup>th</sup>. Attached to this letter, you will find a more detailed letter with information about the score reports and information you can access online. **Please make sure your child gets plenty of sleep and arrives to school on time each day of testing.** A good night of sleep can really help your child do his/her best!

We know our students are talented and smart, and we know that standardized tests don't capture the full picture of who a student is -- their creativity, resiliency, persistence, curiosity, empathy, leadership, self-awareness, etc. We also know that each of our scholars have grown in many ways this year - intellectually, artistically, socially, emotionally, etc and this test won't capture all of that. With this in mind, we want to support our students in doing their absolute best while making sure that we don't cause our students to feel stress.

In addition to working hard to prepare our students academically for testing, we have also been working on improving students' skills in perseverance, persistence, stamina and digging deep to remember all that they have learned, even when the test is difficult. The students will encounter questions on the MAP test that will challenge them. We have discussed the importance of not giving up and working hard, even when the test is hard. On Monday, we will have a short all school assembly, and teachers will perform a skit: "AFIA Super Heroes take on the MAP test!" **Please talk to your child about doing his/her best on the test and taking breaks as necessary.** We will allow students to take short breaks as needed. We want our students to be comfortable while testing.

We are working with our food caterer to ensure that our students have a hot breakfast on each day of testing. We will also provide snacks for them while they are testing. Students may dress down on their testing days.



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Students are taking the following tests:

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: English Language Arts (ELA) and Math

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: English Language Arts (ELA) and Math

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: English Language Arts (ELA), Math and Science

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: English Language Arts (ELA) and Math

Please talk with your child and encourage him/her to do her/his best on the test. We are striving to encourage, but not overwhelm, our students about taking their time and doing their best work during testing (and always!).

During the week of April 24<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders will take ELA.

During the week of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders will take Math.

During the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> graders will take Science.

Please contact your child's teacher or us if you have questions. Thank you for all that you do!

Thank you,

Tricia DeGraff, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

Karren Colbert  
Principal