

## BOARD BRIEF

December 18, 2020

BOARD INFORMATION: \_\_\_\_\_

MEETING PREPARATION:   X  

**FROM:** Terri Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief of Teaching, Learning and Leadership  
Anthony Sims, Ph.D., Executive Director of School Improvement  
Natalie Mitchell, Director of Title I Programs  
Farah Nichols Peterson, School Improvement Coordinator

**THROUGH:** Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

**TO:** The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and  
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

**TOPIC:** MAP Assessment Administration Update

### **ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL**

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

### **FY 2020 BUDGET PRIORITY**

Gap Group Achievements  
Academics

### **FY 2021 BUDGET PRIORITY**

K-2 Literacy Programming  
Outreach to Underserved Communities to Increase Engagement

### **SUMMARY**

The division experienced a successful initial administration of the *Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Screening Assessment*, including multiple training opportunities in the interpretation and implementation of MAP data reports for staff. For the next administration (late January 2021), the division will transition into using the full *MAP Growth Assessment* for all students grades 2-12 in both reading and math.

### **BACKGROUND**

This fall, ACPS began using the *Northwest Education Association's (NWEA) MAP Assessments* as our universal screening tools for reading and math in all schools for grades 2-12. For the first administration, we administered the *MAP Screening Assessment*, an abbreviated version of the more robust *MAP Growth Assessment*, due to the feasibility of administering the assessment remotely. The information gained from MAP Screening benefits students by helping teachers identify individual learning needs associated with learning loss, promote student goal-setting, and monitor academic growth. Teachers need accurate and timely data to personalize and

evaluate the effectiveness of instruction. MAP scores provide diagnostic information to support customizing instruction to the needs of students.

### **MAP TASK FORCE**

Building assessment and data literacy through targeted professional learning and guidance materials are integral components of the MAP implementation. The MAP Task Force, a small group of teachers, coaches, and other school leaders who participated in the MAP Growth pilot during the 2019-2020 pilot at Title I schools, created guidance documents to support MAP implementation division-wide. Members of the Task Force trained teachers, specialists, interventionists, instructional coaches, and administrators using online sessions. These professional learning opportunities focused on administering the assessments, analyzing data for instructional planning, and using various MAP reports with colleagues, students, and families. A significant portion of the training centered on the importance of using multiple data sources in addition to MAP when making decisions about student grouping, interventions, and enrichments for students.

ACPS will administer the full *MAP Growth Assessments* during the winter testing window in reading and math for students in grades 2-12. MAP Growth consists of 42-53 questions and allows teachers to examine granular information about students' strengths and areas of instructional concern. All stakeholders will benefit from the robust data reports available with MAP Growth. In alignment with the *ACPS 2025 Strategic Plan Goal* strategy, "Improve students' and families' experiences during key transitions in their educational journey," schools will meet with families following the winter *MAP Growth Assessment*. These forums will serve as an opportunity to share student performance data and facilitate collaborative development of short and long-term academic and social goals for students.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review this memo for information regarding upcoming MAP testing.

### **IMPACT**

*MAP Growth Assessment* will provide teachers and administrators with precise, timely, actionable data they need to identify instructional levels, areas of strength, and areas of opportunity for students. This data will enable teachers to more effectively plan targeted, differentiated instruction that meets the needs of all learners and track student performance and goals.

### **CONTACT**

For general questions about MAP

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For questions about MAP Administration or Training

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