

CLARENCEVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

MAKING EDUCATION COUNT

October, 2014

Wendy Kellehan, Principal
Kevin Murphy, Assistant Principal

Main Office: 248-919-0270
Attendance Line: 248-919-0272
Fax Line: 248-919-0436

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

NWEA TESTING

Over the past few weeks, your child took online assessments called Measures of Academic Progress®(MAP®) from the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA). We gave the students MAP tests to determine each child's instructional level and will use future testing to measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of Math, Reading, Language and Science. The following is a brief FAQ on NWEA and MAP.

What is NWEA?

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) is a not-for-profit organization committed to helping school districts throughout the nation improve learning for all students. NWEA partners with more than 2,200 school districts representing more than three million students. As a result of NWEA tests, educators can make informed decisions to promote your child's academic growth.

Where can I learn more about NWEA?

Visit the website http://legacysupport.nwea.org/sites/www.nwea.org/files/resources/ParentToolkit_0.pdf

What is the MAP NWEA Assessment?

MAP— NWEA's computerized adaptive tests

are called Measure of Academic Progress, or MAP. When taking a MAP test, the difficulty of each question is based on how well a student answers all the previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions become more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier. In an optimal test, a student answers approximately half the items correctly and half incorrectly. The final score is an estimate of the student's achievement level.

What is RIT?

Tests developed by NWEA use a scale called RIT to measure student achievement and growth. RIT stands for Rasch UnIT, which is a measurement scale developed to simplify the interpretation of test scores. The RIT score relates directly to the curriculum scale in each subject area. It is an equal-interval scale, like feet and inches, so scores can be added together to calculate accurate class or school averages.

What is the average score?

RIT scores range from about 140 to 300. Students typically start at the 140 to 190 level in the third grade and progress to the 240 to 300 level by high school. RIT scores make it possible to follow a student's educational growth from year to year.

What subjects does MAP assess?

We are using the MAP tests in the area of

Mathematics, Reading, Language, and Science assessments.

How long does it take to complete a test?

Although the tests are not timed, it usually takes students about one hour to complete each test.

Do all students in the same grade take the same test?

No. NWEA assessments are designed to target a student's academic performance in the subjects tested. These tests are tailored to an individual's current achievement level. This gives each student a fair opportunity to show what he or she knows and can do. If a school uses MAP, the computer adjusts the difficulty of the questions so that each student takes a unique test.

What can I do as a parent?

Three kinds of parental involvement at home are consistently associated with higher student achievement:

- Actively organizing and monitoring a child's time.
- Helping with homework.
- Discussing school matters.

What are NWEA assessments used for?

NWEA assessments are used to measure your student's progress or growth in school. You may have a chart in your home on which you mark your child's height at certain times, such as on his or her birthday. This is a growth chart. It shows how much he or she has grown from one year to the next. NWEA assessments do the same sort of thing, except they measure your student's growth in mathematics, reading, language usage, and science skills. The scale used to measure your child's progress is called the RIT scale (Rasch unit). The RIT scale is an equal-interval scale much like feet and inches on a yardstick. It is used to chart your student's academic growth from year to year.

How do teachers use the test scores?

NWEA tests are important to teachers because

they keep track of progress and growth in basic skills. They let teachers know where a student's strengths are and if help is needed in any specific areas. Teachers use this information to help them guide instruction in the classroom.

How do I get a copy of my child's scores?

Copies of your child's MAP Progress Report and a Quick Reference Guide to help you navigate through the report will be available at parent teacher conferences. As always, if you have any questions please contact Ms. Kellehan.

NEW PARKING LOT

The new parking lot in the front of the building is finally completed and ready to use. Use of this lot is prohibited for regular morning student drop-off (7:30 a.m. - 8:10 a.m.) or afternoon student pick-up (2:40 - 3:10). The only time this new lot is to be used during regular drop-off and pick-up times is when a visitor or parent/guardian has to come into the middle school to conduct school business. This lot is to be used for student drop-off and pick-up only if a student arrives to school late or needs to leave school before release time.

STUDENT DROP-OFF

Cars dropping off students should enter the parking lot and drive single file behind the football fence. Once through the gate, cars can move into two lanes. Cars that will be going south, turning left, on Middlebelt must be in the left lane. Cars heading north on Middlebelt, turning right, must be in the right lane. Students should exit cars when the cars reach the entrance of the building. To speed up the drop-off process, two cars at a time should line up one behind the other in front of the building and drop off simultaneously.

STUDENT PICK-UP

The after school pick-up procedure varies slightly from the morning. Cars will still enter the parking lot and drive behind the football fence. Cars should form two lines parallel with the fence, but leaving the center

lane open. Students may enter the cars from behind the fence at the point lining up with the concession stand to as far down as the southern most gate. Students MAY NOT wait for the cars to come to them. Students should enter the vehicles from the passenger side only. A car is permitted to leave the single file line as soon as the student has entered. The car will enter the center lane, proceed through the gate and exit the parking lot. This pick-up procedure will also be used for our monthly activity nights.

Please Note:

- THE PARKING BARRICADES ARE THERE FOR A REASON. DO NOT DRIVE DOWN THE AISLES OF THE PARKING LOT OR EXIT THE PARKING LOT VIA THE SOUTH EXIT!
- DO NOT PARK ON MIDDLEBELT WHILE WAITING FOR YOUR STUDENT(S). WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP LINE DOES BACK UP ONTO MIDDLEBELT, BUT THE LINE MUST KEEP MOVING.
- PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS MUST BE KEPT FREE OF CARS AND PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF LINES MUST BE KEPT CLEAR AND MOVING. IF YOU NEED TO COME INTO THE BUILDING YOU WILL NEED TO PARK IN THE PARKING LOT. DO NOT PARK ANYWHERE BETWEEN THE PARKING BARRICADES AND THE BUILDING.

TUTORING SCHEDULE

6TH GRADE

Monday: Ms. Oldani, 7:20-7:50 am, room 206, math only.

Tuesday: Mr. Yourchock, 3:00-4:00 pm, room 106, all subjects.

Wednesday: Mrs. Quinn, 7:20-7:50 am, room 106, all subjects. Mrs. Robbins, 3:00-4:00 pm, room 222, all subjects.

Thursday: Mrs. Gillespie, 7:20-7:50 am, room 212, math only.

7TH GRADE

Monday: Ms. Oldani, 7:20-7:50 am, room 206, math only.

Tuesday: Mr. Yourchock, 3:00-4:00 pm, room 106, all subjects.

Wednesday: Mrs. Quinn, 7:20-7:50 am, room 106, all subjects. Mrs. Robbins, 3:00-4:00 pm, room 222, all subjects.

8TH GRADE

Monday: Ms. Oldani, 7:20-7:50 am, room 206, math only.

Tuesday: Mr. Yourchock, 3:00-4:00 pm, room 106, all subjects.

Wednesday: Mrs. Robbins, 3:00-4:00 pm, room 222, all subjects.

LUNCH TIME TUTORING

Monday-Friday: Mrs. Robbins, 6th, 7th and 8th grade lunches, all subjects.

Monday-Friday: Mrs. Penn, 6th and 7th grade lunches, all subjects.

SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

6th Grade—Jennifer Thomasma & Desmin Robinson

7th Grade—Samantha Allison & Ben Shute

8th Grade—Sydney Vargo & Angelito Robles

MEDIA CENTER NEWS

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Media Center October 20-24th. The book fair hours are 8:00-4:00 pm. The book fair will be open during Conferences on October 22 and 23. Do not miss this opportunity to pick up some great books for your student.

Bakers needed for the Media Center bake sale. Please contact Stephanie Wilson in the Media Center at 248-919-0277 to volunteer.

BOX TOPS & LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Please save your labels and box tops. We participate in both the Box Tops for Education and labels for Education programs. Last year we

raised \$367.06 and earned 1,700 points. We have collection bins located in the Main office. If you shop at Kroger, please register your Kroger card online at both **LabelsForEducation.com** and **RewardYour School.com**. Scan your Kroger card every time you shop. The points from any participating items will be credited to our account automatically.

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Clarenceville Middle School has been chosen to participate in Building Healthy Communities. The goal is to engage middle schools through Project Healthy Schools. The program has three main components: education, environment and measurement. Participating schools receive a hands-on coordinator to work closely with your school to ensure that the program is successful and can be sustained over time. Kick off will be in November!

HONOR ROLL BREAKFAST

The Honor Roll Breakfast for the first card marking will be held October 29 in the cafeteria. Students who earned ALL A's and B's on their report card during the first card marking are invited to attend. TIMES: 6th grade from 8:15-8:45 am, 7th grade from 9:00-9:30 am, 8th grade from 9:45-10:15 am. Parents are always welcome.

PRE-PAID LUNCH PROGRAM

Students are required to use a pre-paid account system for purchasing lunch. Students must prepay by the week or month in the cafeteria before school begins for the day. Please be sure you check with your child about his/her lunch account. If there is a negative balance in the account they will not be able to receive a lunch. Please help with making sure your child has money in his/her account.

PARENT MEETINGS

October 13—Title I

November 10

January 12

February 9

March 9

SCIENCE CLASS

Ms. Patti Green, Science, is asking for donations of pie tins and the bad energy-light bulbs that give off heat. If you are a pie eater, wash the tins and send them in anytime between now and December 18.

BOYS BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

Boys basketball tryouts will start the week of November 3, at 3:00 pm. You must have a physical on file to tryout and pay to participate money (\$50). If you played football this year for Clarenceville, then we should have both a physical and pay to participate on file. Please remember to wear proper attire that is school appropriate: shorts, t-shirts and basketball shoes.

FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

When officially requesting homework, your child must be absent for at least three days. Teachers need their preparation time period to fulfill the request, which means 24-hour notice. If you want the work brought home by another student, simply state who, and we will take care of that for you. If your child has a lengthy absence (10 or more days), please call the attendance office as soon as you know that this is the case and receive further details.

If your child is absent less than three days, we suggest:

- Homework Connect for their grade level on the website
- Parent Connect to check for missing assignments
- Outside Reading Project (all students have reading logs)
- Contacting a friend or neighbor and asking what happened/homework for that day in class
- Emailing the teachers to see if you can get instruction on what the assignment was

You are welcome to come up to school and pick up any books your child may need from their locker. With a formal request from the office, journals and books from the classrooms are included in the homework pick up. Homework requests for more than two-day vacations need administrative approval from the attendance office with at least two weeks prior approval. If you choose to contact the teachers in your own email for homework without getting administrative approval through the attendance office, the student becomes responsible for whatever the teacher requires. Contacting the administration will ensure that your child has consistent homework, support, and grading appropriate to their absence. Please obtain doctor, dental, funeral, and court notes, etc., to exempt rather than just excuse your child's absence and call the attendance office to excuse their absence at 248-919-0272.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

My name is Sarai Koster-Mockeridge, students know me as Ms. K-M, and I am the NJHS advisor. I am very excited to begin my second year leading the Clarenceville chapter of NJHS.

NJHS is off to a great start for the 2013-2014 school year! Our induction ceremony was held on Tuesday, September 30th in the school cafeteria. Congratulations to all of our new members!

NJHS will be selling suckers during the month of October. Suckers will cost \$1 and all proceeds will go towards community giving projects. NJHS will be hosting the October Activity Night! It will be held on Friday, October 17 from 4-6 pm. Admission cost is \$4 with student ID, and \$5 without ID. There will be a variety of contests including costume and donut eating. Don't miss out on the best activity night of the year! We need lots of parent volunteers, so please contact Ms. K-M by email or phone if you can help!

Our next meeting dates are October 10 and 24, November 7 and 21. Don't forget, all NJHS members must perform 30 hours of community

service per school year. I am looking forward to a wonderful year with NJHS!

7TH GRADE NEW NJHS MEMBERS

Samantha Allison	Brendan Mahoney
Breanna Ford	Jacob Patterson
Benjamin Giuffre	Benjamin Shute
Dean Harrington	Annabelle Smith
Morgan Hodges	Cara Smith
Tyler Huebner	Joshua Stadler
Miles Katchorek	William Vernier
Chase Kluesner	Alma Xhilaj
Ashlyn MacIver	Maxwell Zarzycki

8TH GRADE NEW NJHS MEMBERS

Christian Buczek	Simon Nowak
Shannon Bullock	Zachary Ortiz
Lavender Calhoun	Angelito Robles
Autumn Farr	Kaitlyn Scussel
Trinity Impola	Alexandria Snage
Krystal Jones	

CURRENT NJHS MEMBERS-8TH GRADE

Riley Myers	Benjamin Means
Rachel Whalen	Timothy Popa
Cheyenne Shananaquet	Kaitlyn Reitzel
Madelyn Baldassarra	Avian Smith
Mikayla Martin	Melina Smith
Michelle Marzolo	Nicholas Snage
Alexandra McKeever	Sydney Vargo
Alexander Means	Jacquelyn Wilson

OFFICERS

Riley Myers—President
Rachel Whalen—Vice President
Cheyenne Shananaquet—Secretary
Madelyn Baldassarra—Treasurer

CMS STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council is an important part of our school. All members help with fund raisers, book fairs, charity drives, school climate, flag patrol, recycling, and communication. We are busy all year. Each active new Student Council member will get a t-shirt close to spring break. This is a great way to be more active in your school and to get ready for high school. CMS Student Council this year will be new and improved. We will have 10 students each from 6th, 7th and 8th grade. This will give us a total of 30 members.

To be a member in Student Council, you must demonstrate leadership skills, keep up with your school work and consistently work on SOARing. We want our Student Council to represent all of our students. **Student council members are expected to come to meetings (unless excused) and to participate in most activities. Meetings will be held twice a month after school from 3-4 p.m.**

Joining Student Council is a commitment. The work is important, and you must carry through with all of your responsibilities. This is good experience to prepare you for a job in the future. If you decide that you no longer want to be a part of Student Council, you will need to write a resignation letter. You may not just stop coming to meetings. Some of our activities this year will also include Michigan Green School initiative, Livonia Goodfellows canned food drive, soup kitchen, toys for tots, Breast Cancer Awareness, Bully Prevention Week and many others.

Applications will be in the main office from **Tuesday, September 30, 2014** until **Friday, October 10, 2014**. All applications are due in Mrs. Penn's mailbox in the main office on **Monday, October 13, 2014**. If you have any questions, please leave a message for Mrs. Penn or email her kpenn@clarencville.k12.mi.us. Thank you and I am looking forward to a wonderful year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/07 Girls BB-Dunckel MS-Away-4:00 pm
- 10/08 Walk to School Day
Boys FB-Ferndale MS-Away-4:30 pm
- 10/09 Girls BB-Ferndale MS-Home-4:30 pm
Board of Education Meeting-6:30 pm
- 10/10 First Marking Period Ends
NJHS Meeting-3:00-3:30 pm
CHS Homecoming Parade/Game
- 10/13 Second Marking Period Begins
Frankenmuth Sales End
- 10/14 Girls BB-Anderson MS-Away-4:30 pm
- 10/15 Boys FB-Hazel Park-Away-4:30 pm
- 10/16 Girls BB-East MS-Away-4:00 pm
- 10/17 Activity Night-4:00-6:00 pm
- 10/20 Picture Retakes
Fire Drill-8:05 am
Book Fair Begins
- 10/21 Girls BB-Detroit Country Day-H-4:30 pm
- 10/22 Boys FB-Royal Oak MS-Home-4:30 pm
MS Conferences-6:00-8:15 pm
Book Fair Open During Conferences
- 10/23 Girls BB-Hazel Park-Away-4:30 pm
MS Conferences-6:00-8:15 pm
Book Fair Open During Conferences
- 10/24 Book Fair Ends
- 10/28 Girls BB-Royal Oak MS-Home-4:00 pm
- 10/29 Boys FB-Orchard Lake -Home-6:00 pm
Honor Roll Breakfast
6th Grade-8:15-8:45 am
7th Grade-9:00-9:30 am
8th Grade-9:45-10:15 am

