



December 8, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In accordance with Section 1112(e)(2)(a) of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), we are writing to provide information regarding the assessments that will be administered this year among students at Mill Creek Academy.

The vision of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is “Every Child a Graduate, College and Career Ready.” The goal is for students to graduate from high school academically prepared and socially and emotionally competent by possessing and demonstrating proficiency in academy content; by having the ability to apply their knowledge through skills such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity; and by possessing behaviors such as perseverance, responsibility, adaptability, and leadership. These proficiencies and attributes come from rigorous, rich, and well-rounded public school experiences.

To measure student progress toward this vision, and maintain a focus on educational equity and excellence, the law maintains that all students are required to take annual statewide assessments. However, when a parent or guardian requests that the student be excused from participating in the WSAS, this request must be honored at grades 4 & 8 per Wis. Stats. 118.30(2)(b)3. If the student is not in the above-mentioned grade levels, the decision to grant the request is at the discretion of the school board. To provide assessment transparency, we would like to share with you below, the various state assessments that we are required to administer to our students throughout the school year.

Assessment	Subject matter and grade levels assessed
<a href="#">Wisconsin Forward Exam</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grades 3 - 5 in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics</li> <li>• Grade 4 in science</li> <li>• Grade 4 in social studies</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)</a> <a href="#">(for select scholars on an alternative curriculum)</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grades 3 - 5 in ELA and mathematics</li> <li>• Grade 4 in science</li> <li>• Grade 4 in social studies</li> </ul>
<a href="#">ACCESS</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grades K - 5, English language proficiency for students identified as English learners (ELs)</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Assessment of Reading Readiness</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grades K4 - 2 for reading readiness</li> </ul>

For more information on testing and assessments, please call us or visit our website at: <https://www.nhaschools.com/schools/mill-creek-academy/en/School-Operations>.

In Partnership,  
Joseph Sellenheim, Principal