

Dear Parents,

In September, students in grades 2 through 8 took the **NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)** tests in reading and mathematics. We have received the official results and teachers will use that data to improve instruction for each student. As we gather the scores of all students over time, these same results help us design and implement better teaching across the district.

MAP tests are unique in that they are adaptive tests your child took on a computer. The test became more difficult the more questions your child answered correctly. When your child incorrectly answered a question, the test became easier. Therefore, your child took a test specifically created for his or her learning level. Please note, as you examine the test report, that it is not unusual to see a drop in score from spring to fall; it is the overall direction of scores over time that are the truest indicators of progress.

The **Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT)** measures individual student achievement relative to the Illinois Learning Standards. The results give parents, teachers, and schools one measure of student learning and school performance.

Results from **NWEA MAP** (grades 3 - 8) and **ISAT** (grades 4 ^ 8) will be enclosed in your child's first quarter report cards.

Also in September, students in grades K - 8 were assessed in reading using the **AIMSweb** universal screener. This benchmark assessment is given three times per year for universal screening, general education progress monitoring and AYP (Annual Yearly Progress) accountability. Results from this universal screening enable us to determine which students may need reading services in addition to their grade level reading program.

The **MAP** and **ISAT** tests are excellent indicators of academic achievement and, but are not the only measure of your child's progress. When thinking about how well your student is doing in school, please consider the other measures we employ including class work, homework, projects, assessments and other standard measures of academic progress.

Sincerely,

M. Lynn Barkley
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Avon Notes & News

November 6, 2009

Wondering where all the flyers have gone?

In our effort to reduce paper and "Go Green" CCSD 46 is pleased to offer an opportunity for our community neighbors to advertise special programs and events which are relevant to the CCSD 46 community. These flyers were previously mass produced and sent home with students. They can now be found on the CCSD 46 website. Visit the Community Outreach webpage for more information.

You can find this information many ways: it is linked from the **Parents & Students** OR **Community** webpages, or look for the new **Virtual Backpack** button on each school page. Flyers are available to download, links to the organizations' website are listed if available, and registration and/or event dates are listed if available. Dates the flyers are posted and will be pulled from the website are also provided for your convenience.

H1N1 FLU PREPAREDNESS:

The District continues to monitor and prepare for the flu season. We cannot overemphasize the importance of reminding your children to practice good hygiene and wash their hands regularly. We also ask that you monitor your children for signs of the flu and keep them home if they exhibit symptoms so they do not infect other children and faculty in their school.

Fortunately, the numbers of suspected/confirmed cases has begun to decline. Thank you for help in keeping sick children at home during this outbreak.

Going Green via the Avon NOVA E-Newsletter:

In an effort to improve communication with parents of Park School Campus as well as being fiscally responsible, we will be only sending home an electronic version of our newsletter, by November 1st. It is important to sign up for the email list at our Avon School webpage, <http://ww2.d46.org/school-av.asp> Thank you for supporting our school.

No School

Please remember that there will be no school for students on Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24. Teachers will be participating in Professional Development during these two days. All District 46 schools will be closed Wednesday through Friday, November 25 - 27 for Thanksgiving Break. School will resume on Monday, November 30.

Avon School Calendar of Events:

November 9 - CCSD 46 Community Curriculum Forum (Presented by Lynn Barkley/Matt Melamed)

November 10 - PTF Board Mtg., 4:00 (Avon)

November 11 - Veteran's Day Assembly, 8:15 (Avon Gym) - Parents and Siblings are Welcome!

November 11 - Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 PM (Grayslake Middle School)
Special Presentation on "Challenging Standards and Curriculum" by the District 46
Professional Development Committee. Lynn Barkley will present
how these "Challenging Standards and Curriculum" are supported at
Avon Center School. Public is Welcome!
November 12 - Birthday Breakfast with the Principal

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