

## Assessments Grades 6-8

### Assessment *of* Learning

Assessments that happen *after learning is supposed to have occurred* to determine if it did. Used to make statements of student learning status at a point in time to those outside the classroom. Evaluative feedback is the mode of communication for results. Students are not involved in the assessment process.

#### CHECK ACHIEVEMENT STATUS

**SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT:** The attempt to summarize student learning at some point in time, as in the end of the course or end of the year. Most standardized tests are summative. They are not designed to provide the immediate, contextualized feedback that helps teachers and students during the learning process. Summative assessments are best used to help teachers or building staffs organize or change their programs.

### Assessment *for* Learning

Assessments that happen while *learning is still underway*. *Actively involves students* in the assessment process. Used to diagnose student needs, plan next steps in instruction, *provide students with descriptive feedback* they can use to improve the quality of their work, and help student see and feel in control of their learning journey.

#### IMPROVE ACHIEVEMENT

**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:** Learning is measured at several points during a teaching/learning phase. A planned process where the primary intention of obtaining information is to guide next steps. Formative assessments involve teachers providing descriptive rather than evaluative feedback to students. It also includes students-from clarifying targets to self-assessing to communicating with others about their own progress.

**BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT:** *selected/designed at a district level* and administered periodically throughout the school year, at specified times during a curriculum sequence, to evaluate students' knowledge and skills relative to an explicit set of longer-term learning goals.

*Required at these grade levels. Data to be entered into district data warehouse.*



- NWEA MAP (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- AIMSweb (Fall, Winter, Spring)
  - Special Populations
  - Literacy – ORF, V, RC, SRF
- PE Fitness Assessment

**INSTRUCTIONAL ASSESSMENT:** *designed by district, teachers, and/or publishers*, and administered by teachers for instructional purposes. These assess what the learner already knows and/or the nature of difficulties.

*Administer if needed, not required. Data to be utilized for instructional decisions, problem solving, and interventions.*



- AIMSweb (Progress Monitoring)
- SRA (TBD)

**COMMON SUMMATIVE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS:** Assessments *designed and administered by teachers at a grade level or a content area/department team* who all teach the same content standards to students. These assessment are all linked to content units.



- ELA & Math End of Unit Assessments

**Trimester 1**  
NWEA MAP (8/19 – 8/30)

**Trimester 2**  
NWEA MAP (1/6 – 1/17)

**Trimester 3**  
IAR (3/11 – 3/27)  
NWEA MAP (4/13 – 4/24)  
State Science – 8<sup>th</sup> grade (3/2 – 4/30)