



September 2021

Dear District 186 Families,

The beginning of the school year is the time to learn about our students by gathering information about who they are – academically, socially and emotionally. Therefore, in the months of September and October, we will administer several assessments that will give us information to guide our teaching and learning this year. Teachers and staff also administer additional classroom or course-based assessments to set goals and monitor students' progress. The main district assessments that we will administer this year include:

NWEA MAP – Reading and Math assessment: NWEA MAP provides information on K - 12 grade students' ready to learn level. MAP is aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards and is connected to online learning platforms that can be used at school and home to support students' individualized learning plans.

Panorama – Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) assessment: This K - 12 grade SEL assessment provides information to guide the teaching and learning of social and emotional standards and skills. Examples of SEL knowledge and skills that students will be assessed on include: growth mindset, social awareness, emotional regulation, teacher-student relationships, school safety and belonging.

SAEBRS/mySAEBRS – Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) screener: The goal of this K - 12 grade universal school-wide screening is to identify students early who may need social/emotional support. Two times a year for students in kindergarten through second grade, your child's teacher will fill out the screener. For students in third grade through twelfth grade, your child will complete the screener during the school day. This screener helps identify areas in a child's social/emotional health, as evidenced during the school day, where the child has the possibility to benefit from extra support. If your child's score on the screener is highly elevated (meaning there are concerns about his or her social/emotional development), the School Social Worker will contact you to discuss options about how we can best support you and your child's needs.

MajorClarity Career Survey: MajorClarity provides a platform for middle and high school students to explore their career interests, academic plans, extracurricular activities, and share other student specific goals with teachers, administrators, and parents. This career survey is aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards and provides the opportunity for students to identify and prepare for their career paths within and beyond school.

We encourage you to reach out to your child(ren)'s teacher(s) and/or administrator(s) with any questions you may have about these assessments or his or her academic growth overall. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to your child(ren)'s academic success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Nash Moody".

Dr. Nicole Nash Moody
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning and School Culture