

Spearfish School District Assessment Information

Acadience Reading

Acadience Reading is an assessment used to measure the acquisition of early literacy skills. Acadience is comprised of six measures that function as indicators of the essential skills that every child must master to become a proficient reader. Acadience measures are brief (most take one minute to administer), and are used to regularly monitor the development of early literacy and early reading skills. Acadience was designed for use in identifying children experiencing difficulty in the acquisition of basic early literacy skills, in order to provide support early and prevent the occurrence of later reading difficulties.

NWEA Map Growth (ELA and Math)

MAP® Growth™ measures what students know and informs what they're ready to learn next. By dynamically adjusting to each student's performance, MAP Growth creates a personalized assessment experience that accurately measures performance—whether a student performs on, above, or below grade level. Timely, easy-to-use reports help teachers teach, students learn, and administrators lead. MAP Growth tests begin with a question appropriate for the student's grade level, then dynamically adapt throughout the test in response to student performance. This progressive refinement allows MAP Growth to challenge top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level.

South Dakota English Language Arts and Math Assessments

The SD ELA and Math Assessments assess students annually in grades 3-8 and 11. The system includes both summative and interim assessments and will use computer adaptive testing technologies to the greatest extent possible to provide meaningful feedback and actionable data that teachers and other educators can use to help students succeed.

South Dakota Science Assessment

The South Dakota Science tests measures students' mastery of the South Dakota State Academic Standards in Science adopted in May, 2015 at grades 5, 8, and 11. This test will cover the grade spans of 3-5, 6-8, and high school. Questions will come equally as possible from life, physical, and earth sciences at all 3 tested levels. This assessment will be completely online.

South Dakota Science Alternate Assessment

The SDSA-Alt is available for students who have a significant cognitive disability. These students are working with the Core Content Connectors and their IEP's indicate alternate assessment for statewide testing.

ACCESS for ELLs

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0® stands for Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners. This large-scale test addresses the academic English language proficiency (ELP) standards at the core of the WIDA Consortium's approach to instructing and evaluating the progress of English learners. ACCESS for ELLs is taken annually by identified English learners to measure their English proficiency. The South Dakota Department of Education requires ELs in Grades 1-12 be administered the online version except in cases where online testing is not allowed.

MSAA (South Dakota Alternate Assessment)

Alternate Assessment is available for students who have met the significant cognitive disability criteria. These students are working with the Core Content Connectors and their IEP's indicate alternate assessment for statewide testing.

PreACT

PreACT simulates the ACT testing experience within a shorter test window on all four ACT test subjects: English, math, reading and science. Results predict future success on the ACT test, and provide both current achievement and projected future ACT test scores on the familiar 1-36 ACT score scale.

NCRC (National Career Readiness Certificate)

The ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate (ACT WorkKeys NCRC®) is an assessment-based credential issued at four levels. The NCRC measures and certifies the essential work skills needed for success in jobs across industries and occupations.

Creekside Math Screener

These screeners are a series of assessments designed to deepen our understanding of individual students' mathematics skills. Add+Vantage Math Recovery (AVMR) (www.mathrecovery.org) is a set of assessments, instructional activities, and professional development that is supported by strong educational research. The Spearfish screeners are not the direct screeners from the AVMR program, but rather modified with consideration of time constraints within the classroom setting. Teachers from within our district developed these screeners from the AVMR program, as well as studying altered screeners from other districts around the nation.

****Parents Opting Out of Assessments****

State law requires districts to administer the statewide assessments in ELA and Math to all students in the tested grades (SDCL 13-3-55), and administrative rule requires that all students take the test (ARSD 24:55:07:01). South Dakota law does not have an option to "opt out" of the test.

In accordance with ESSA 1111(b)(2), Spearfish School District hereby provides parent/guardian(s) information regarding requesting exemption from State and local assessment(s). Any parent wishing to have their child opt-out of such assessment, where applicable, shall do so in writing a minimum of 5 school days in advance of the said assessment(s). Students may not opt-out of assessments mandated by State or Federal Law.