Data and Assessment Task Force
June 2021
(Revised October 2021, Kimberly Yarlott)

Committee Co-Chairs
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Committee Members

Naomi Halvorson (MHS)	English Department Head
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Jeanette Cote (RFS)	Language Arts Coordinator
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Sherry Rosswaag (RFS)	Math Facilitator

The Goal of the Data and Assessment Task Force

To create a district-wide assessment calendar (K-12) for the purpose of collecting data to inform instruction throughout the year. There are two calendars: (1) Mathematics, and (2) English Language Arts.

Both calendars are divided into four columns:

- Date: The month in which the assessment will be administered.
- Assessment: The name or type of assessment to be given.
- Who: The student population to be tested.
- Purpose: The purpose of the assessment.

Common Understandings for Educators

- District educators will follow the assessment schedule outlined by the Data & Assessment Task Force.
- Classroom and special educators will maintain assessment data via the data entry listed on the MSD Assessment Schedule.
- Assessment administration guideline dates will be maintained unless modified by administration, department heads, coordinators and/or facilitators.
- Data from universal and diagnostic screenings, as well as formative assessments will be analyzed by educators to inform instruction.
- After a review of multiple data points, students who fall below benchmark will be considered for Tier 2 or 3 interventions, and likewise, students who score significantly above benchmark will be considered for extension opportunities.

Definition of Terms

A **Universal Screening** is an assessment given to students in a group or grade level. The purpose of this assessment is to identify any students who are significantly below the benchmark and may need intervention, or to identify students significantly above the benchmark who may need enrichment.

A **Diagnostic Screening** is a pre-test to collect data about what a student knows and does not know yet.

Formative Assessment refers to a wide variety of methods that teachers use to conduct in-process evaluations of student comprehension, learning needs, and academic progress during a lesson, unit, or course (retrieved from *edgolssary.org).*

> ** Though both diagnostic assessments and formative assessments aim to inform teachers to instruct more effectively, they emphasize different aspects. Formative assessments are taken during a unit to assess how students are learning the material that the teacher has been teaching. Diagnostic assessments come before this, analyzing what students have learned in the past, many times from different teachers or classes. Both are very helpful for the teacher, and the results are used to identify areas that need more attention in future instruction. (Retrieved from https://edulastic.com/blog/diagnostic-assessment/).*

Summative Assessments are used to evaluate student learning, skill acquisition, and academic achievement at the conclusion of a defined instructional period (retrieved from *edgolssary.org).*

Note to parents:
You may request copies of your child's assessments.
STAR is a quick diagnostic assessment and does have a parent report that can be printed.
The NHDOE will be sending parents the SAS reports at the end of the year.

Please see your child's teacher(s) for desired reports.

Kimberly Yarlott, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

Grade K– 12 Merrimack School District – Mathematics Assessment Schedule

Date	Assessment	Purpose	Who
September/ October	**STAR 360**	• Universal Screening • Diagnostic Screening • Title 1 Math Placement	All Students Grades 2 - 8
	Placement Test	• Universal Screening • Diagnostic Screening	Grades 7-8 except for Algebra 1
	Course Pre-Test	• Diagnostic Screening	8th Grade Algebra
	Course Pre-Test	• Diagnostic Screening	All Students Grades 9-12
	District Fact Automaticity	• Diagnostic Screening: Add, Subtract, Mixed	Grade 3
		• Diagnostic Screening: Add, Subtract, Mixed, Multiply, Divide	Grade 4
		• Diagnostic Screening: Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide, Mixed	Grades 5-6
January/ February	Mid-Year Cumulative Topics 1-4	• Formative Assessment • Progress Monitoring	Grade 5
	Mid-Year Cumulative Topics 1-4	• Formative Assessment • Progress Monitoring	Grade 6
	Mid-Year Cumulative	• Formative Assessment • Progress Monitoring	Grades 7-8
	Mid-Year	• Formative Assessment • Progress Monitoring	8th Grade Algebra Students
	Mid-term Exams	• Summative Assessment	All Students Grades 9-12
	STAR 360	• Universal Screening Diagnostic Screening • Title 1 Math Placement	All Students Grades 1 - 8
	District Fact Automaticity	• Formative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Mixed	Grade 2
		• Formative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Mixed, Multiply	Grade 3
		• Formative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Mixed, Multiply, Divide	Grade 4
		• Formative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide, Mixed	Grades 5-6
February/ March	Mid-Year Cumulative Topics 1-8	• Formative Assessment	Grades K- 4
March/April/ May/June	**NH SAS- Math** (Science)	• State Mandated Universal Screener	Grades 3-8 (Grades 5, 8, & 11)

March/April	**SATs**	• State Mandated Universal Screener	Grade 11
May/June	District Fact Automaticity	• Summative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Mixed	Grade 2
		• Summative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Mixed, Multiply	Grade 3
		• Summative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Mixed, Multiply, Divide	Grade 4
		• Summative Assessment: Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide, Mixed	Grades 5-6
May/June	**STAR 360**	• Universal Screening • Summative for 2021-2022 • Diagnostic Screening for 2022-2023 • Title 1 Math Placement	All Students Grades 1-7
	EnVisions End of Year Assessment	• Summative Assessment	K - 6
	MMS Math Placement Test	• Summative Assessment	Grade 6
	End of Year Assessment	• Summative Assessment	Grades 7-8
	Final Exams	• Summative Assessment	8th Grade Algebra Students
	Final Exams	• Summative Assessment	Grades 9-12

Merrimack School District-Literacy Assessment Schedule 2021-2022
Section 1: Kindergarten

Date	Assessment	Purpose	Who
September	**Early Literacy Skills Assessments:** Letter ID/Letter Sounds	• Diagnostic Screening • Formative Assessment	All K Students
November/ December	**Early Literacy Skills Assessments:** Letter ID/Letter Sounds/Phonemic Awareness - Baseline	• Diagnostic Screening • Formative Assessment	All K Students
	High Frequency Word Assessment	• Progress Monitoring	All K Students
	Writing Prompt Pre-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Formative Assessment	All Students
	Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment	• Determine Instructional Reading Level • Formative Assessment	All Students
January/ February	**Early Literacy Skills Assessments:** Letter ID/Letter Sounds/Phonemic Awareness – Mid-Year	• Diagnostic Screening • Formative Assessment	Students not meeting expectations on a given assessment
February/ March	**Writing Prompt Post Assessment** (According to ELCs)	• Summative Assessment	All Students
	Writing Prompt Pre-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Formative Assessment	All Students
April/May/June	**Early Literacy Skills Assessments:** Letter ID/Letter Sounds/Phonemic Awareness – End of Year	• Diagnostic Screening • Formative Assessment	Students not meeting expectations on a given assessment
	High Frequency Word Assessment	• Formative Assessment • Progress Monitoring	All K Students
	Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark	• Determine Instructional Reading Level • Formative Assessment	All K students
	Writing Prompt Post-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Summative Assessment	All K Students

Merrimack School District-Literacy Assessment Schedule 2021-2022
Section 3: Grade 1-6

Date	Assessment	Purpose	Who
September/ October	**STAR 360**	• Universal Screening	All Students Gr 2-6
	Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark	• Formative Assessment • Determine Instructional Reading Level	All Students Gr 1-6
	Words Their Way Spelling Inventory	• Diagnostic Screening • Formative Assessment	All Students Gr 3-6
	Writing Prompt Pre-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Formative Assessment	All Students Gr 1-6
	Early Literacy Skills Assessment: Letter ID/Letter Sounds/Phonemic Awareness- Baseline	• Diagnostic Screening • Formative Assessment	All Students
	High Frequency Word Assessment	• Formative Assessment	All Students
December	Writing Prompt Post-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Summative Assessment	All Students Gr 1-6
	Writing Prompt Pre-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Formative Assessment	All Students Gr 1-6
	High Frequency Word Assessment	• Progress Monitoring	All Students
January/ February	**STAR 360**	• Universal Screening	All Students Gr 1-6
	Words Their Way Spelling Inventory	• Formative Assessment • Progress Monitoring	All Students Grades 3-6
	Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment	• Formative Assessment • Determine Instructional Reading Level	All Students Gr 1-6
	High Frequency Word Assessment	• Progress Monitoring	All Students
	Early Literacy Skills Assessment: Lett ID/Letter Sounds/Phonemic Awareness - Midyear	• Diagnostic Assessment • Formative Assessment	Letter ID/Letter Sounds - Students who have not yet mastered Phonemic Awareness - All Students

March	Writing Prompt Post-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Summative Assessment	All Students Gr 1-6
	Writing Prompt Pre-Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Formative Assessment	All Students Gr 1-6
May/June	**Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark**	• Formative • Determine Instructional Reading Level	All Students Gr 1-6
	STAR 360	• Universal Screening	All Students Gr 1-6
	NH SAS Reading and Writing	• State Mandated Universal Screener	All Students Grades 3-6
	Writing Prompt Post Assessment (According to ELCs)	• Summative Assessment	All Students Gr 1-6
	Early Literacy Skills Assessments: Letter ID/Letter Sounds/Phonemic awareness-End-of-Year	• Diagnostic Assessment • Formative Assessment	Letter ID/Letter Sound - Student who have not yet mastered Phonemic Awareness - All Students
	High Frequency Word Assessment	• Progress Monitoring	All Students

Merrimack School District-Literacy Assessment Schedule 2021-2022
Section 4: Grade 7-12

Date	Assessment	Purpose	Who
September	**STAR 360**	• Universal Screening • Title I Reading Placement	Grades 7-8
	GRADE	• Diagnostic Screening • Title I Reading Placement	Grades 7-8
	Pre-Assessment	• Diagnostic to identify gaps within grade-level/course	Grades 9-12
October/ November	MHS Formative Assessments	• Formative Assessment • Progress Monitoring • Establish need for remediation	Grades 9-12
January	**STAR 360**	• Universal Screening • Progress Monitoring • High School Placement Gr. 8	All Students Grades 7-9
	GRADE	• Progress Monitoring • High School Placement gr. 8	Grade 8; excluding students in the *Language Live Program*
	MHS Summative Assessment (Mid-Terms/Finals determined by course)	• Summative Assessment • Determine level of mastery towards first semester goals/objectives	Grades 9-12
March/April	MHS Formative Assessments	• Formative Assessment • Measure progress • Establish need for remediation	Grades 9-12
	NH SAS Reading and Writing	• State-mandated Universal Screener • High School Placement gr. 8	Grades 7-8
	SATs	• State-mandated Universal Screener	Grade 11
May/June	**STAR 360**	• Universal Screening • Progress Monitoring • Title I Reading Placement 2022-2023	-Grade 7 all -Grade 8 Title I students only
	GRADE	• Progress Monitoring • Title I Reading Placement 2022-2023	-Grade 7; excluding students who will remain in the *Language Live Program*
	MHS Summative Assessment (Finals)	• Determine level of mastery towards second semester goals/objectives	Grades 9-12