

# Assessment and Research

October 2018

## FastBridge Winter Screening

### *Winter Benchmarking*

The winter administration window begins November 26th and ends December 7th. All PreK—sixth grade students will participate in the reading and math benchmarking assessments. Students in grades seven and up in a reading or math intervention will participate in both the reading and math screeners. Any other student may also be screened based on student needs and history.

### *Ensuring Valid Data*

Before each benchmark window, it is important to make sure teachers are trained in the tests they are administering. Training modules for each assessment may be accessed via FastBridge using the Training & Resources tab. For initial training, teachers should work through the module, including practice items. Certification is not required. At a minimum, experienced teachers should review the standardization page for each assessment they will give.

### *Group Screening Report*

Make sure to select “benchmarks” from the color code drop-down menu, in the upper right. Pinks and purples indicate that this has been properly selected. This report provides a class-level or grade-level overview showing the risk level of each student. This report is helpful in providing a big picture view of who is above/below benchmark. For Early Reading and Early Math, this report shows risk based on the composite score.

### *Individual Skills Report*

This report can be helpful in looking at the individual skill needs for each student. The report lists the grade level skills the student has mastered, skills that are developing, and skills the student is not yet able to perform. The Individual Skills Report is a good tool to use in conversation with parents about their child’s performance and a way to ask for support at home with specific skills. This report can assist in aligning interventions to specific skill needs and support relevant PSP/IEP goals to ensure a student’s needs and goals align.

### *Detailed Group Report (elementary)*

This report can be helpful in looking at each class for Early Reading and Early Math, as it lists both the composite score and the detailed information for each subtest. This will allow teachers to examine the students’ risk level on subtests like Word Segmenting and/or Nonsense Words.

## Grants

### *What we do and how we can help*

The grants staff will help maximize resources available by pursuing funding for effective programs that enhance student achievement, advance school improvement plans and support the District's Strategic Plan. Our focus is on: writing grants for \$20K or more and/or interdepartmental grants; grant research for any amount; and providing assurances that all grant proposals sent out align with the District’s Strategic Plan and policies. The grant administrator will ensure fiscal responsibility and program compliance of grant funds allocated at the district and school levels. Grant funds will be monitored according to grant guidelines and required financial reporting and data to be provided. On-going professional development and supports will be provided to district staff related to effective grant writing, compliance, and monitoring of site-based grants.

### *Applying for a Grant*

All district staff must submit an intent to apply for any grant, regardless of amount. Grants of 5K or more must be submitted at least 30 work days prior to the due date. The online Intent to Apply is found by signing in at the WPS website and going to Departments >Assessment and Research>Grants. Information on the grants website will be regularly updated with funding opportunities that align with the WPS Strategic Plan.

## Dynamic Learning Map (DLM) Assessments

First Contact Surveys should be completed and DLM teachers should have DLM testlets assigned to students in the KITE portal. Also, if you are not familiar with the current DLM eligibility procedure contact Sylvia Rusk (srusk@usd259.net) or Susie Lee (rlee@usd259.net).

## Cognos: Student Profiles from the Teacher Dashboard

Student profiles for teachers are available two ways. One is by clicking the student ID# beside the student’s name on the student roster in the middle of the dashboard. Additionally, one or more profiles may be printed by using the report dropdown in the upper right hand corner of the dashboard. Select “Student Profile”, then “Run”. At the filter select “by a list of student IDs”. Check the students needed or “select all” under the list of students. Click “Finish” at the bottom of the screen, then download or print.