




Student Assessment Parent Forum

Why do students take tests/assessments?

How do schools and teachers use the results from assessments?



“Nothing we do to or for our students is more important than our assessment of their work and the feedback we give them on it. The results of your assessment influence students for the rest of their lives.”

Race, et al.



THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSESSMENT DATA

- Asking students to demonstrate their understanding of subject matter is critical to the learning process.
- Schools use assessment data results to:
 1. Ensure that students are meeting grade-level expectations and remain on track for the next grade level and ultimately, high school graduation. (We want to ensure students are prepared for their academic journey year to year.
 2. Improve the curriculum, better plan instruction and provide more personalized instruction to address individual student needs. (Are there trends in the data that show an area of weakness? Is the pacing of lessons and curriculum appropriate?)
 3. Identify where a student is excelling and/or where s/he needs additional support or enrichment. (Are students properly identified?)
 4. Modify instruction as needed.
 5. Encourage active learning.
 6. Help students identify their own errors and learn from feedback.
 7. Support instructional decision making.

TYPES OF DATA COLLECTED

- Various types of data is collected and used to make fair, sound reasonable instructional decisions. No decision is based on one point of data. Triangulation (multiple points) of data gives a clear picture of student performance. Below are examples of the types of data used:
 1. Student grades
 2. Math placement tests (IAAT and Pre-Algebra indicator) The *Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test*, Fifth Ed.
 3. Lexile Reading Level, STAR, which is then used by the student and teacher to select text at the appropriate reading level.
 4. District writing assessments (Narrative, Informational, Persuasive and Argumentative)
 5. Math, English and 8th grade Science Diagnostic Computer Diagnostic Testing Systems
 6. PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) - Math, English and 8th grade Science
 7. PASA (Pennsylvania Alternative System of Assessment) – alternative assessment for students with severe disabilities
 8. Keystone Assessments – End of course assessments for Algebra 1, Biology, and Literature
 9. PVAAS (Pennsylvania Value Added Assessment System) - Projections (future projections on PSSA) and growth measurements of students versus like peers in the state.
 10. Attendance
 11. Student Discipline

STUDENT DATA ASSESSMENT WAREHOUSE

- Student data is stored in a program called Performance Plus

4/15/2015	PSSA - ELA - Grade 6 - 2015	Scaled Score	1000	■ Proficient	English Language Arts
4/15/2015	PSSA - Math - Grade 6 - 2015	Scaled Score	937	■ Basic	Math
9/1/2015	Math 7th grade literacy indicator 2015-2016	Total Score	44	■ Proficient	Math
9/8/2015	Writing Prompt 1 Narrative: 7th Grade				Reading and Writing
10/5/2015	7th grade Health First Aid Vocabulary Assessment 2015-2016				Health
10/5/2015	7th grade Health Too Good Content Assessment 2015-2016				Health
10/6/2015	7th Grade Social Studies Content Assessment				Social Studies
10/6/2015	7th Grade Social Studies Vocabulary Assessment				Social Studies
11/3/2015	7th Grade Reading Vocabulary Assessment Revised 4/21/16 for Canvas				Reading and Writing
11/5/2015	Math 7th grade content indicator 2015-2016	Total Score	14	■ Proficient	Math
11/6/2015	2015 Seventh Grade Science Vocabulary Assessment Modified -Part One	Cells and Heredity Ch. 1 Vocabulary Assessment	14	■ Proficient	Science and Technology
11/6/2015	2015 Seventh Grade Science Vocabulary Assessment Modified -Part Two	Cells and Heredity Ch. 2 Vocabulary Assessment	15	■ Advanced	Science and Technology
11/6/2015	SLO Science Summative Cell Parts Assessment Modified	Total Score	10	■ Advanced	Science and Technology
11/9/2015	7th grade English Comprehension Assessment	Total Score	9	■ Advanced	English Language Arts
11/9/2015	7th grade English Vocab Assessemnt	Total Score	24	■ Advanced	English Language Arts
11/16/2015	Writing Prompt 2 Informative : 7th Grade				Reading and Writing
1/11/2016	Seventh Grade Life Science Mid-Term - 2014-15	Total Score	35	■ Proficient	Science and Technology
3/3/2016	7th Grade Nonfiction Summative Assessment	Total Score	20	■ Advanced	Reading and Writing
4/15/2016	PSSA - ELA - Grade 7 - 2015-16	Scaled Score	1001	■ Proficient	English Language Arts
4/15/2016	PSSA - Math - Grade 7 - 2015-16	Scaled Score	857	■ Below Basic	Math

PERFORMANCE PLUS

- From the example shown, each assessment can be further examined. Questions, answers and performance can be viewed. Teachers can click on specific standards to see how students have mastered the material. (Where are the strengths and areas of improvement?)

Section	Description	Max Score	Original Score	Performance Level
Scaled Score		3000	1001	Proficient
A-K.1 (Anchor 1.1) - Key Ideas and Details		9	4	Proficient
B-K.1 (Anchor 1.2) - Key Ideas and Details		6	2	Basic
A-C.2 (Anchor 2.1) - Craft and Structure/Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		6	3	Proficient
B-C.2 (Anchor 2.3) - Craft and Structure/Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		6	5	Advanced
B-C.3 (Anchor 2.4) - Craft and Structure/Integration of Knowledge and Ideas		2	1	Proficient
A-V.4 (Anchor 3.1) - Vocabulary Acquisition and Use		5	1	Below Basic



MATH DATA USED FOR PLACEMENT

► Data used for Advanced Math Courses

1. Minimum of 80% on algebra inventory (IAAT)
2. Advanced in Math PSSA or High Proficient
3. Student grades in prior class
4. Student achievement historical data
5. Teacher recommendation

► Data used for Math Remediation course

1. PSSA – Basic or Below
2. Student grades – D or below
3. CDT data - basic
4. Math Quarterlies and indicator assessment
5. Historical data from Performance Plus
6. Teacher Recommendation



READING DATA USED FOR PLACEMENT

► World Language vs 8th grade Reading course?

1. Student grades from Reading and English classes in 6th and 7th grade
2. STAR Results on grade level or above
3. PSSA Assessment score of Proficient or above
4. Teacher recommendation

► Data used for Reading Remediation Course

1. Teacher recommendation
2. Formative and Summative assessment data - grades
3. PSSA Assessment Score of basic or below basic – two years worth of data
4. STAR Data results – one year or more below grade level
5. CDT assessment scores – Red
6. 5th grade incorporates DIBELS testing where appropriate
7. Review of Pertinent Data from Performance Plus – IE. District writing assessments



Pennsylvania System of School Assessment PSSA

► School usage:

1. State assessment data is used to measure individual student progress over time. Districts use the assessment data to measure the effectiveness of their curriculum, interventions and programs.
2. Test results from the PSSA assessment show how well a student performed in subcategories of skills in each subject to identify strengths and weaknesses

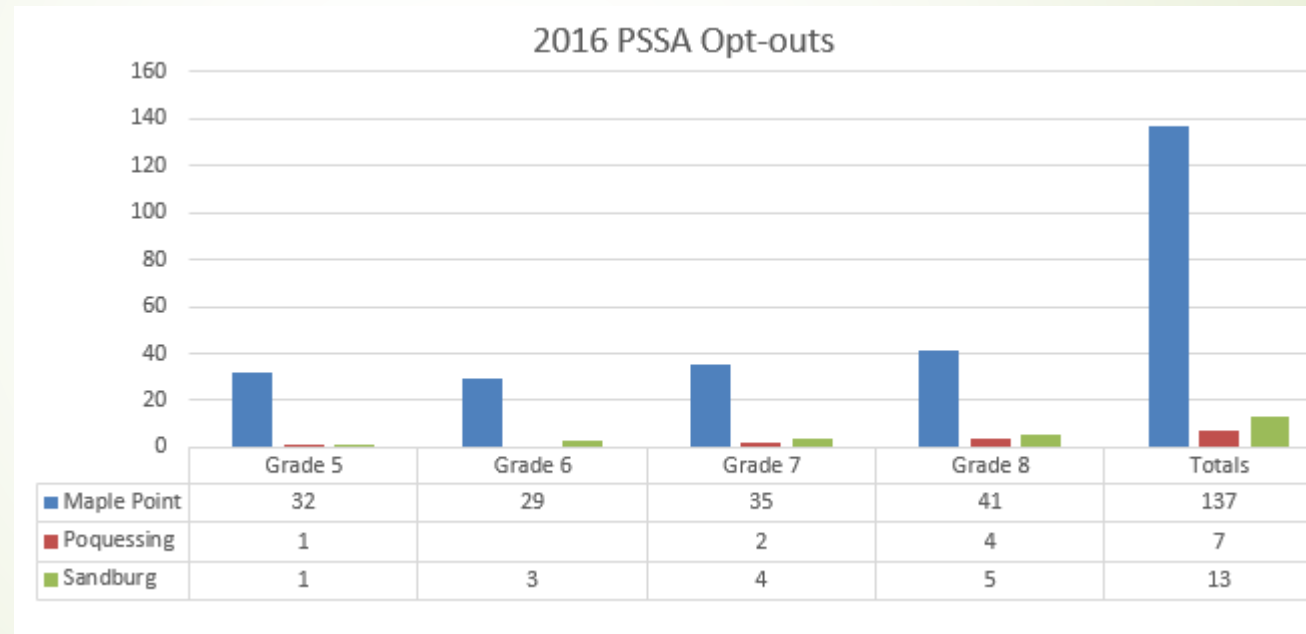
► Parent usage:

1. Parents can use assessment results as a springboard to start a discussion with teachers about how they can help their child stay on track and learn how they can view their child's progress over time.
2. State assessments measure whether students have achieved what is expected for their grade or course.
3. Parents can use their child's test results to better understand his or her needs and strengths and work with teachers to identify resources that would provide additional support.

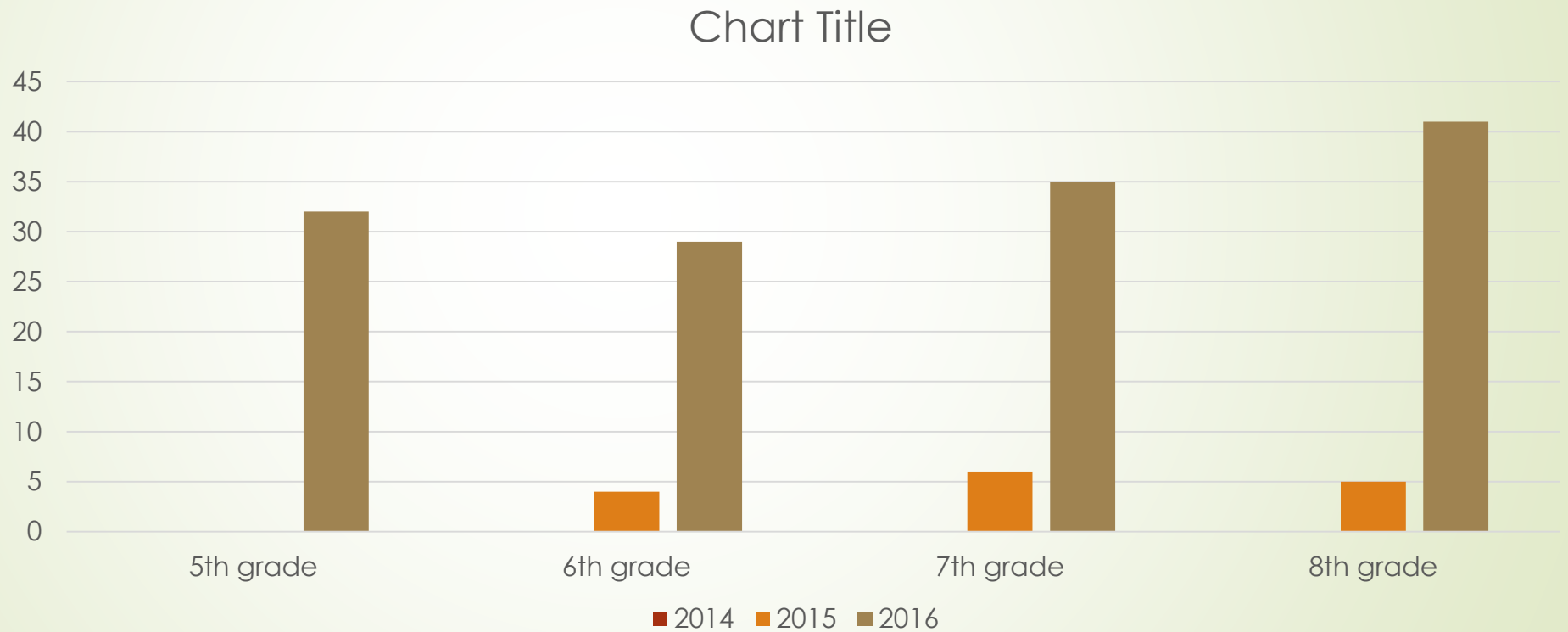
► Student usage:

1. Identify areas of strengths and weaknesses.
2. Engage on active learning
3. Conflict peer/self assessment to foster reflection, critical thinking and self awareness skills.

PSSA OPT OUTS FOR ALL NESHAMINY MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN 2016



MAPLE POINT MS HISTORICAL DATA ON OPT OUTS OF THE PSSA FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS





PSSA OPTING OUT EFFECTS

- Incomplete picture of student and class performance
- Eliminates student ability to demonstrate understanding of the subject matter, set goals, and learning from errors.
- Impedes capacity to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses
- Attitude of students taking the assessment is affected – very difficult to quantify.
 1. If they don't have to take the test, Why do I?
 2. My parents are making me, I really don't care.
 3. This doesn't matter for anything, why should I try?
- Attitude of students that are opted out
 1. My parents think this is a joke.
 2. I opted out because my friend did, I didn't even know you could.
- Attitude of parents opting students out.
 1. My student is stressed out by the PSSA
 2. I don't believe in assessment.
 3. I am opting out because my friend opted their student out.



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROFILE – SPP EFFECT

➤ 2013-14 SPP Score

76.6 - 0 Opt outs

2015-16 SPP Score

59.0 – 137 opt outs

PSSA results have a direct correlation with a school SPP score

What happened?

- Participating rate was reduced - how does the 137 opt-outs from the 2016 PSSA effect the School Performance Profile? How were the students who took the assessment effected by the large number of opt outs?
- Attitude is a major contributing factor of student performance on the calculation of SPP

We need your help!!!



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROFILE

- The SPP score of a 59 represents Maple Point as a failing school. Students, Parents, community members view this number and what it represents.
- I would whole heartedly disagree. Maple Point's strong academic and extracurricular programs prepare students and continues the process of building futures for each child in the Neshaminy School District. Maple Point has done the following to improve our SPP.
 1. Reviewed the data available to identify emerging trends that show areas of improvement needed in ELA, Math, and Science for instruction.
 2. Teachers have participated in professional development that addresses student areas of weaknesses (Both tested and non-tested subjects).
 3. Administration has reviewed current student data and has made changes in students schedules to support these areas where students are struggling. (IE – rescheduling WIN classes to add support, creating 5th grade extra math groups to give added support).
 4. Teachers have flexed their clinic times to offer more support.
 5. Teachers have created PVAAS action plans that address instruction and growth of students along with reviewing PSSA projections of students.
 6. Outreach to parents through these forums.
 7. Scheduled grade level WIN meetings in March with students to encourage students to do their best and the expectations for the test. Review of strategies for assessment will occur.
 8. Recognition of academic performance.