



# Understanding Your Child's Assessments

## *Five-year-old Kindergarten*

Assessments help teachers understand what children know and what they need to learn. The results allow teachers and staff to adapt lessons to increase student achievement. At this grade level, students generally spend less than 4 hours per school year taking standardized tests for district, state, and federal accountability.

| July | Aug. | Sept.                            | Oct. | Nov. | Dec.   | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr.            | May | June |
|------|------|----------------------------------|------|------|--------|------|------|------|-----------------|-----|------|
|      |      | <b>Early Childhood Screening</b> |      |      |        |      |      |      |                 |     |      |
|      |      | PALS<br>español                  |      |      | ACCESS |      |      |      | PALS<br>español |     |      |

### For All Students

| Assessment                       | Description   | Early Start Calendar Dates | Traditional Calendar Dates |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Early Childhood Screening</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developmental and literacy screening for students in grades K3-K5</li> <li>Used to plan instruction and identify students in need of support</li> <li>Given one on one or in small groups</li> </ul> |                            | TBD                        |

### For Some Students

| Assessment  | Description  | Early Start Calendar Dates | Traditional Calendar Dates                  |
|---|--|----------------------------|---|
| <b>ACCESS for English Language Learners</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assesses language progress in four areas: listening, reading, speaking, and writing</li> <li>Teachers use data to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English proficiency</li> <li>Administered by computer</li> </ul> |                            | Dec. 1, 2021-Jan. 28, 2022                  |
| <b>PALS español – Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures Spanish early reading skills such as letters and sounds</li> <li>Teachers use data to plan instruction and target student needs</li> <li>Given one on one or in small groups</li> </ul>                                    |                            | Sep. 13-Oct. 8, 2021<br>April 4-May 6, 2022 |

If you have questions about your child's performance on these assessments, please contact your child's teacher. Please see the *MPS Parent Assessment* brochure for more information on the role you play in your child's assessments.