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**Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP)**

Dear DMPS Families,

For several years Des Moines Public Schools, as well as schools across the state, have administered the Iowa Assessments to students in grades 3 through 11 to measure student progress and to gather data necessary to inform our school improvement efforts. This set of tests has undergone a significant renovation this year which our students will experience in the spring.

The most notable changes are the name of the tests and the delivery format. The new tests will be called the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) and they will be delivered online.

Taking the new statewide assessment online will be a new experience for our students. However, online testing is not new to the students of DMPS. As early as 2nd grade our students begin taking online assessments in Math and Reading through the Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) tests. DMPS students will begin the ISASP tests at various times between March 27 and April 26. Iowa Testing Programs and Pearson have provided resources for students to prepare for the upcoming assessments. The home page for the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress can be found at <http://iowa.pearsonaccessnext.com>. Clicking on the Test Preparation tab at the top of the webpage will take you to tutorials on how to maneuver in the system and to sample tests for each grade. You do not need a password or a user account to view any of these resources—they are available to anyone with internet access. Schools will work with students to help orient them to the new testing environment, but we invite you to look at these assessments with your student as additional support in their preparation for the ISASP.

As with any new endeavor there will be missteps along the way, however, we will strive to create a quality testing experience that maximizes the number of students assessed and minimizes the disruptions to the learning environment. We look forward to working with your family in this new endeavor.

Thank You!