



September 9, 2024

Dear Berkshire families,

As we embark on another enriching academic year, BPS continues to align with our strategic plan goal of improving two-way communication between district staff and families. Below is valuable information about i-Ready, our district benchmark assessment for students in grades K-8.

The i-Ready Diagnostic is a rigorous assessment tool that adjusts questions based on student responses. Students begin the test at grade level, and the next item may adapt up or down based on the student's response. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly more complex questions, while a series of incorrect answers will yield slightly easier ones. This assessment will help families and educators know where students are across the K-12 continuum of learning standards.

During the 2024-25 school year, students in grades K-8 will take three diagnostic assessments. The Fall assessment provides a baseline, and the Spring assessment will measure a student's progress throughout the year. The winter assessment gives us a glimpse into how students are progressing in the middle of the school year, allowing teachers to adjust instruction as needed to accelerate student progress.

The Fall i-Ready diagnostic assessment window will open on Monday, September 16, and close on Friday, October 4. During a scheduled time within this window, your child will take both the reading and math tests. The first diagnostic is an important benchmark for understanding your student's initial knowledge of the content standards, which is why it's so important that they try their best. These results allow their teachers to support them in achieving their year-long goals.

The most important thing we can do is prepare students and motivate them to put forth their best effort during the test. To help prepare your child for the i-Ready Diagnostic, encourage them to

- Get a good night's sleep and eat a full breakfast on the day(s) of the assessment.
- Try their best on each question and try not to rush.
- Try not to worry about questions they do not know—remind them they will get only about half of the questions correct.
- Be respectful of other students who take longer to finish.

It will also be helpful to your child to let them know that you're excited to celebrate their progress. Once the diagnostic assessment window closes, you will receive another letter with steps to access the score reports.

Thank you for your continued support and for being a partner in your child's learning! If you have any questions about i-Ready, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's teacher. You can learn about i-Ready by visiting i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter or viewing the attached i-Ready Family Guide.

Sincerely,

Jason Clinkscale