

# State Assessment in Michigan

WHAT IT IS - WHAT IT MEANS –  
WHAT IT OFFERS



# Expecting More

- Getting children ready to take their place in the world is challenging.
- The knowledge and skills students need for a well-paying job continually evolve to meet current and future workplace demands.



# Expecting More

- To ensure students can meet these demands, the State Board of Education routinely strengthens Michigan learning standards.
- State standards broadly outline what students need to know and be able to do in each subject and grade level to be career- and college-ready upon high school graduation.

# Expecting More (cont'd)

- Today's standards challenge students to:
  - ✓ Understand subject matter more deeply.
  - ✓ Learn how to think critically.
  - ✓ Apply what they are learning to the real world.
  - ✓ Make learning relevant in their lives.

# What are Michigan Standards?

- They are EDUCATOR DEVELOPED learning goals for mathematics, English language arts (ELA), science, and social studies.
- They prepare students for college and careers.
- They help students compete nationally and internationally.
- They are *not* a curriculum or federal program.

# New Standards, New Assessments

- New learning standards require new ways to measure how much students know and can do.
- That's why in 2015, Michigan replaced the 44-year-old MEAP test with the NEW Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), and continues to look for ways to improve its system of standardized assessment.

# Measuring Progress

Each spring, all students take a high-quality state assessment.

- ✓ **M-STEP** is given to elementary and middle school students each spring.
  - ❖ In grades 3 through 8, English language arts and mathematics standards are measured by M-STEP.
  - ❖ Science and social studies are measured in grades 5, 8 and 11.

# Measuring Progress

- ✓ **PSAT** (PreSAT) is an option for districts and is given each spring to students in grades 9 and 10.
- ✓ **Starting in 2019**, schools will be required to give the PSAT to students in grades 8, 9, and 10



# Measuring Progress

- ✓ **Michigan Merit Exam (MME)** assesses students in grade 11 and includes:
  - ❖ **SAT with Essay** college entrance exam, which also measures English language arts and mathematics standards.
  - ❖ **M-STEP** science and social studies exams.
  - ❖ **ACT WorkKeys** assessment, which measures work skills.

# Support for Students

- To prepare students for the College Board's PSAT and the SAT with Essay, Michigan students have free access to the Khan Academy for online test practice. [collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice](https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice)
- For more information on the PSAT and SAT, please visit: the College Board's Michigan website at [Michigan College Board web page](#).

# Why State Assessments Are Important

1

State assessments like M-STEP and MME are “summative,” meaning they measure what students have learned during the year in relation to Michigan’s career and college-ready learning standards.

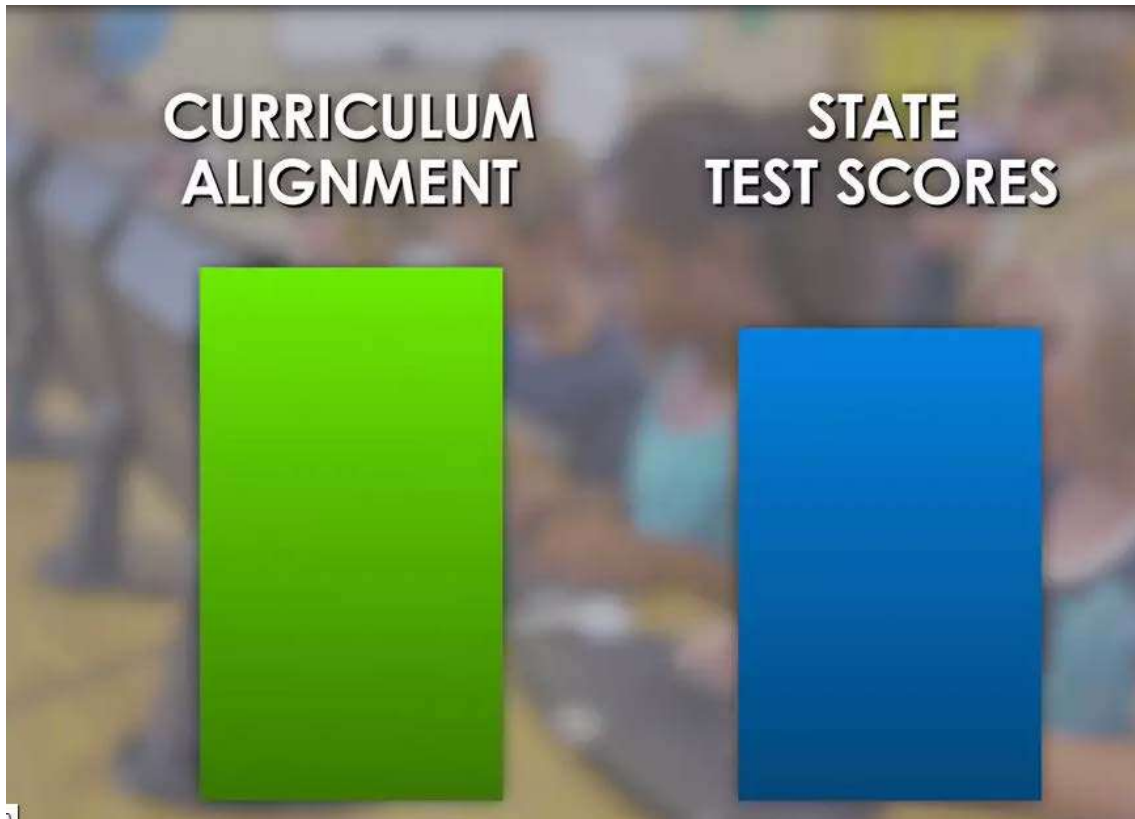
2

They are required under both state and federal law, to ensure all children are learning and receiving a high-quality education.

# What Do State Assessments Provide?

- An important snapshot of achievement at the student, building, district and state level.
- Valuable information for teachers to use to align classroom instruction and lesson plans with state standards.

# Curriculum Alignment and Test Scores



The more aligned a school's curriculum and education is to state standards, and the more students learn, the higher state test scores are likely to be.

2/6/2018

# When Does My Student Take State Assessments?

# Online Testing Schedule

- To provide districts and schools scheduling flexibility, online M-STEP testing sessions can be scheduled on any instructional day within a 4-week window.
- Not all students need to be administered the same assessment at the same time, nor on the same day.
- Test sessions are **not** timed (with the exception of College Entrance and Work Skills Tests). Students should be allowed extra time if they need it.

# Spring 2018 Online Testing Schedule

Grade Level	Assessment Used and Content Area Assessed	Testing Window
Grades 3, 4, 6, 7	M-STEP Mathematics and ELA	April 30 through May 25
Grades 5 and 8	M-STEP Mathematics, ELA, Science, and Social Studies	April 9 through May 4
Grades 9 and 10	PreSAT (PSAT)	April 10 or 11 April 24 or 25 (Makeup)
Grade 11 MME	M-STEP Science and Social Studies	April 9 through May 4
	SAT	April 10 or April 24 (Makeup)
	ACT WorkKeys	April 11 or April 25 (Makeup)
All grades	MI-ACCESS Alternate Assessment – all grades, all content areas	April 9 through May 25
All grades	WIDA for students who are learning the English language	February 5 through March 23

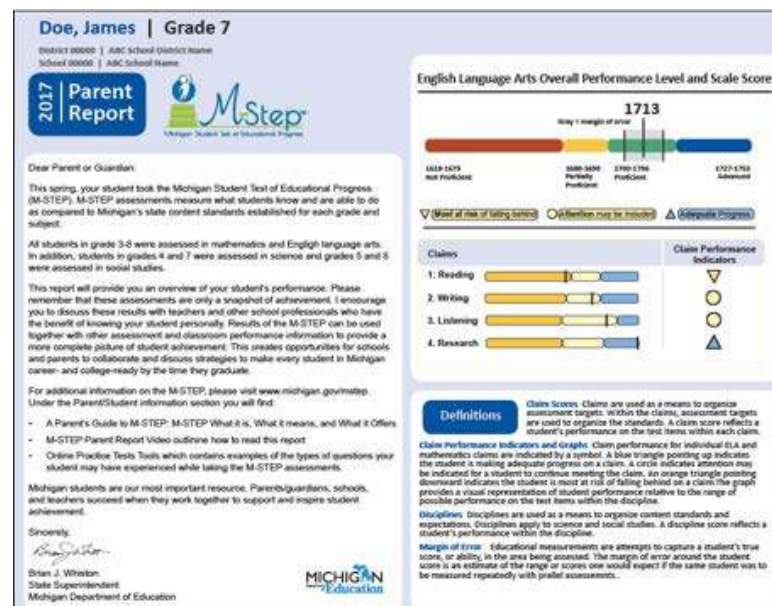


# Student Time Spent on State Assessments

- Students spend on average 3-7 hours total taking a state assessment — depending on grade or <1% of instructional time.
- All other assessments are determined at the local district or building level.
- Preliminary results are available to schools within 24-48 hours.
- Final results released in late summer prior to the beginning of school.

# Final Test Results

- Schools receive a printed report they give to parents and guardians that describes their student's performance on the subjects tested by M-STEP and MME, which differ by grade.



# Test Results (cont'd)

- To help walk you through a parent report, MDE has developed a short video and information piece for each assessment:



- ✓ [How to Read Your Child's Score Report Video](#)
- ✓ [M-STEP - How to Read Your Child's Score Report for Grades 3-8](#)
- ✓ [MME - How to Read Your Child's Score Report for Grade 11](#)

# Test Results (cont'd)

- ▶ Your student's teacher can explain each of these reports in more detail and describe how your child is doing in each area. The teacher can also discuss what you can do to help your child succeed.

# Questions?

- Visit the M-STEP web page parent section at [www.Michigan.gov/mstep](http://www.Michigan.gov/mstep)
- Visit the MME web page at <http://www.michigan.gov/mme>
- Contact the MDE Assessment and Accountability Office at [baa@Michigan.gov](mailto:baa@Michigan.gov) or 877-560-8378 (toll-free)