



# Northwest Evaluation Association - NWEA

The University of Detroit Jesuit Academy began using MAP testing from the NWEA in the fall of 2011. Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) is a state-aligned computerized adaptive assessment program that provides educators with the information they need to improve teaching and learning and make student-focused, data-driven decisions.

Students in the Jesuit Academy are tested three times per year in math, general science, science concepts, reading, and language usage. Teachers can use the growth and achievement data from MAP to develop targeted instructional strategies and to plan school improvement.

The following is to assist you with the information provided on your son's score reports.



# NWEA – Score Data

For each of the five subject tests, there is a score card. U of D Jesuit Academy has three testing cycles each school year; Fall, Winter and Spring. After multiple test cycles, the score card will show the growth achieved by your student.

## Student MAP Scores

Student MAP testing results are reported in RIT scores (short for Rasch Unit). A RIT score is an estimation of a student’s instructional level and also measures student progress or growth in school.

You may have a chart in your home on which you mark your child’s height at certain times, such as on his or her birthday. This is a growth chart to show how much he or she has grown from one year to the next. MAP assessments do the same sort of thing, except they measure your student’s growth in math, general science, science concepts, reading, and language usage.

The RIT scale is an equal-interval scale much like feet and inches on yardstick. It is used to chart your child’s academic growth from year to year. This type of score increases the value of the tests as a tool to improve student learning because it enables teachers to pinpoint what students have learned and what students are ready to learn.

The most recent test score is on the top.

The three test cycles in the previous school year

| Mathematics |       |                     |               |                 |                |                |                    |
|-------------|-------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Season/Year | Grade | Student Score Range | Dist. Avg RIT | Norm Group Avg. | Student Growth | Typical Growth | Student %ile Range |
| F12         | 8     | 244-247-250         | 237           | 230             |                |                | 79-84-88           |
| S12         | 7     | 249-252-255         | 238           | 230             | 11             | 5              | 85-89-92           |
| W12         | 7     | 246-249-252         | 234           | 228             |                |                | 85-89-92           |
| F11         | 7     | 238-241-244         | 233           | 226             |                |                | 77-82-86           |

Mathematics Goals Performance - Fall 2012

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Number & Operations | HiAvg |
| Algebra             | HiAvg |
| Measurement         | HiAvg |
| Geometry            | HiAvg |
| Data & Probability  | High  |

### Season/Year Legend

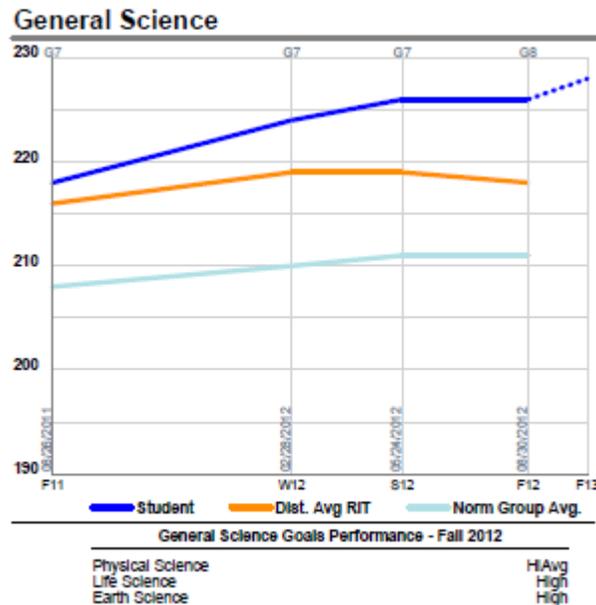
F11 – Fall 2011  
 W12 – Winter 2012  
 S12 – Spring 2012  
 etc.



## NWEA – Score Data

For each of the five tests, there is also a chart to represent your student's progress.

### Understanding the RIT Score



The charts show the RIT comparisons for:  
your son (in blue),  
the Jesuit Academy (in yellow), and  
nationally (aqua).

You may use these charts to help determine if your student is performing at, above, or below grade level compared to other students.

It is important to understand that the MAP test is one test at one point in time. It does not measure intelligence or a student's capacity for learning.

When making important decisions about students, Jesuit Academy teachers will consider the MAP test results along with other data such as classroom performance, other test scores, and input from parents and teachers.



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## Growth Over Time

We expect RIT scores to increase over time. Typically, younger students show more growth in one year than older students. Students who test above grade level often show less growth. Sometimes RIT scores may decline from one test to the next.

One low test score is not cause for immediate concern. Like adults, students have good and bad days and their test results do not always indicate what they know. Students' attitudes toward the test can also affect their score. Therefore, growth over time is a better measure of student learning.

Parents and guardians should become comfortable with the understanding that individuals will grow at different rates. Anticipated growth rates for each student are based on national norms and should be viewed as "typical" growth, not *expected* growth. The Jesuit Academy faculty have participated in training to learn what the MAP test results mean and how to best utilize the results. Our goal is for teachers to use the data to differentiate and adjust instruction so that all students grow at levels appropriate for each individual.