

**River Bluff Education Center / Goodhue County Education District Area Learning Center**  
**District Assessment Schedule 2017-2018 (Version 1)**

**September 2017**

Dates	Grade(s)	Assessment	Time Length	Details
9/6-9/26	K-1	FAST earlyReading and earlyMath Assessments <sup>^</sup>	8 minutes per student (reading) 5-7 minutes per student (math)	Appendix A
9/6-9/26	2-5	FAST CBM Reading <sup>^</sup>	5 minutes per student	Appendix B
9/6-9/26	2-3	FAST CBM Math – Automaticity <sup>^</sup>	4 minutes (whole group)	Appendix C
9/6-9/26	4-5	FAST CBM Math – Process <sup>^</sup>	15 minutes (whole group)	Appendix D
9/6-9/26	2-8	FAST Bridge Computer Adapted Reading and Math <sup>^</sup>	15-30 minutes (whole group)	Appendix E

**December 2017/January 2018**

Dates	Grade(s)	Assessment	Time Length	Details
12/4-1/17	K-1	FAST earlyReading and earlyMath Assessments <sup>^</sup>	8 minutes per student (reading) 5-7 minutes per student (math)	Appendix A
12/4-1/17	1	FAST earlyReading, including CBM Reading <sup>^</sup>	10 minutes per student	Appendix A/B
12/4-1/17	1-3	FAST CBM Math – Automaticity <sup>^</sup>	4 minutes (whole group)	Appendix C
12/4-1/17	4-5	FAST CBM Math – Process <sup>^</sup>	15 minutes (whole group)	Appendix D
12/4-1/17	2-5	FAST CBM Reading <sup>^</sup>	5 minutes per student	Appendix B
12/4-1/17	2-8	FAST Bridge Computer Adapted Reading and Math <sup>^</sup>	15-30 minutes (whole group)	Appendix E

**February 2018**

Dates	Grade(s)	Assessment	Time Length	Details
2/1-2/28	K-12	ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Online <sup>^/^^/*</sup>	3-4 hours	Appendix F
2/1-2/28	K-12	Alternate ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Online <sup>^/^^/*</sup>	1-2 hours	Appendix F
2/27	11-12	The ACT Plus Writing (College Entrance Exam) <sup>^/^^/*</sup>	4 hours	Appendix G

**April/May 2018**

Dates	Grade(s)	Assessment	Time Length	Details
4/9-4/20	3-8, 10	MCA and MTAS Reading <sup>^/^^/*</sup>	3.5-5 hours (whole group)	Appendix H/I
4/9-4/20	3-8, 10	MCA and MTAS Math <sup>^/^^/*</sup>	1.5-3.5 hours (whole group)	Appendix H/I
4/9-5/4	5, 8, 10	MCA and MTAS Science <sup>^/^^/*</sup>	1-2 hours (whole group)	Appendix H/O

**May 2018**

Dates	Grade(s)	Assessment	Time Length	Details
5/14-5/25	K	FAST earlyReading and earlyMath Assessments <sup>^</sup>	8 minutes per student (reading) 5-7 minutes per student (math)	Appendix B
5/14-5/25	1	FAST earlyReading, including CBM Reading <sup>^</sup>	10 minutes per student	Appendix B/C
5/14-5/25	1-3	FAST CBM Math – Automaticity <sup>^</sup>	4 minutes (whole group)	Appendix D
5/14-5/25	4-5	FAST CBM Math – Process <sup>^</sup>	15 minutes (whole group)	Appendix E
5/14-5/25	2-5	FAST CBM Reading <sup>^</sup>	5 minutes per student	Appendix C
5/14-5/25	2-8	FAST Bridge Computer Adapted Reading and Math <sup>^</sup>	15-30 minutes (whole group)	Appendix I

**As Needed**

As Needed	K	W-APT for Kindergarten students flagged on the Minnesota Home Language Survey <sup>^</sup>	80 minutes	Appendix J
As Needed	1-12	WIDA Screener <sup>^/^^/*</sup>	70 minutes	Appendix K

^ = River Bluff Education Center – REACH and GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (8-12); ^^ = GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (6-7); \* = GCED Area Learning Center – Tower View Alternative High School  
 Document Format adopted from Northfield (MN) School District

## FAST earlyReading and earlyMath Assessments

**Description:** earlyReading and earlyMath are evidence-based assessment used to screen and monitor student progress.

**Purpose:** Results help identify student risk while informing instruction.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education and World's Best Workforce Legislation; River Bluff Education Center

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center - REACH

**Results:** TBD

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information at the FAST Bridge Learning website:

<http://www.fastbridge.org/early-reading/>

<http://www.fastbridge.org/earlymath/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## FAST Reading CBM

**Description:** CBMreading (Curriculum-Based Measurement for Reading) is an evidence-based, one-minute assessment used for universal screening in English or Spanish (Grades 1-8), and for frequent progress monitoring (Grades 1-12). Substantial research evidence demonstrates that CBMreading is a robust indicator of reading development and a useful predictor of student performance on state tests. CBMreading is an index of word reading efficiency, which is an important ability that facilitates reading comprehension. Students who read a grade-level passage with efficiency are better able to use their cognitive resources to comprehend while reading.

**Purpose:** FAST provides benchmark targets for performance to help identify students at-risk for academic failure.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education and World's Best Workforce Legislation; River Bluff Education Center

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center - REACH

**Results:** TBD

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about FAST Reading CBM at the FAST Bridge Learning website:

<http://www.fastbridge.org/cbmreading/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## FAST CBM Math – Automaticity

**Description:** This 4 minute, computer-administered assessment evaluates the degree to which students’ basic math facts and operations are accurate and automatic (fluent).

**Purpose:** Helps educators identify trends in individual students’ performance, isolate specific skills by Common Core State Standards that are mastered or need further development, and also offer group-level normative data that help clarify when class-wide or school-wide intervention and supports are needed.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education and World’s Best Workforce Legislation; River Bluff Education Center

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center - REACH

**Results:** TBD

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about FAST Math CBM at the FAST Bridge Learning website:

<http://www.fastbridge.org/cbmmath/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## FAST CBM Math – Process

**Description:** This brief, group-administered assessment helps teachers understand students’ strengths and areas of difficulty when computing math problems.

**Purpose:** Helps educators identify trends in individual students’ performance, isolate specific skills by Common Core State Standards that are mastered or need further development, and also offer group-level normative data that help clarify when class-wide or school-wide intervention and supports are needed.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education and World’s Best Workforce Legislation; River Bluff Education Center

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center - REACH

**Results:** TBD

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about FAST CBM Math - Process at the FAST Bridge Learning website:

<http://www.fastbridge.org/cbmmath/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## FAST Computer Adapted Reading and Math

**Description:** aReading (Adaptive Reading) is a computer-administered adaptive measure of broad reading that is individualized for each student. aMath (Adaptive Math) is a simple, efficient computer-adaptive measure of broad math that is individualized per student.

**Purpose:** Benchmark Standards (i.e., “cut scores” or “targets”) are built into the system to assist in determining which students are at-risk for academic failure versus those who are on track to be successful. Students with deficit achievement are quickly identified for additional intervention. The data also identify and inform instructional decisions for on-track and high-performers.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education and World’s Best Workforce Legislation; River Bluff Education Center

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center - REACH

**Results:** TBD

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about the FAST Computer Adapted Reading and Math assessments at the FAST Bridge Learning website:

<http://www.fastbridge.org/areading/>

<http://www.fastbridge.org/amath/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

**Description:** The ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are English language proficiency assessments used to meet federal and state legislative requirements. These assessments are used to monitor English learners' progress as they develop academic language skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

**Purpose:** ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs scores provide valuable information about English language development to families and schools. Families can use proficiency level scores and descriptions to understand the progress their child is making and to engage with schools to support their child's learning.

Teacher and schools can use the scores to monitor student progress in acquiring English, plan instruction, and evaluate their language development programs. Schools can also use these scores to determine if a student is ready to exit an English language program.

Finally, school and district level test results are used in federal and state accountability measurements.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center – REACH and GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (6-7) (8-12); Tower View Alternative High School

**Results:** Results given to parents/guardians at the school open house, fall conferences or mailed near the start of the school year

### **Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS testing at the Minnesota Department of Education website:

<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/fam/tests/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## The ACT Plus Writing (College Entrance Exam)

**Description:** The ACT college readiness assessment is a standardized test for high school achievement and college admissions in the United States. The ACT assessment measures high school students' general educational development and their capability to complete college-level work with the multiple choice tests covering four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The Writing Test measures skill in planning and writing a short essay.

**Purpose:** The ACT is used to evaluate high school achievement and college admissions in the United States.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center – REACH and GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (8-12); Tower View Alternative High School

**Results:** Distributed to parents/guardians within six weeks of testing completion

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about the ACT at the following web sites:

<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/ResourcesforStudentsandFamilies.pdf>

<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/Preparing-for-the-ACT.pdf>

<https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/Using-Your-ACT-Results.pdf>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.



## Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA)

**Description:** The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) are yearly state tests in reading, mathematics, and science that are used to meet federal and state legislative requirements. The tests are administered every year to measure student performance relative to the Minnesota Academic Standards that specify what students in a particular grade should know and be able to do.

**Purpose:** The tests are administered to measure student performance relative to the Minnesota Academic Standards that specify what students in a particular grade should know and be able to do.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center – REACH and GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (6-7) (8-12); Tower View Alternative High School

**Results:** Results given to parents/guardians at the school open house, fall conferences or mailed near the start of the school year

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about MCA testing at the Minnesota Department of Education website:

<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/fam/tests/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS)

**Description:** The Minnesota Test of Academic Skills (MTAS) is an alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. It is part of the Minnesota assessment program. The MTAS measures reading, mathematics, and science skills that are linked to the general education curriculum. These skills represent high expectations for students with significant cognitive disabilities, but tasks to measure these skills are considerably less difficult than the items on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA).

**Purpose:** The MTAS is one of the tests used to meet federal and state legislative requirements that may be taken in place of the MCA. Schools are responsible for meeting the educational needs of all students. Some students are unable to achieve grade-level proficiency due to their disability, and the MTAS helps ensure that schools provide access to reading, mathematics, and science instruction that is linked to the Minnesota Academic Standards at the student's grade level to the extent appropriate. The child's Individualized Educational Program (IEP) may indicate a need for specialized instruction in both functional and academic skills. The MTAS is designed to measure student progress on academic skills.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education

**Participating Programs:** River Bluff Education Center – REACH and GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (6-7) (8-12); Tower View Alternative High School

**Results:** Results given to parents/guardians at the school open house, fall conferences or mailed near the start of the school year

### **Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about MCA testing at the Minnesota Department of Education website:

<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/fam/tests/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## WIDA-APT (W-APT)

**Description:** W-APT stands for the WIDA (World-class Instructional Design and Assessment)-ACCESS Placement Test. It is an English language proficiency “screener” test given to incoming students who may be designated as English language learners. Students new to our district with a first language other than English take the W-APT within first month of school entry.

**Purpose:** The W-APT assists educators with English language programmatic placement decisions such as identification and placement of ELLs.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education

**Participating Schools:** River Bluff Education Center – REACH and GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (6-7) (8-12); Tower View Alternative High School

**Results:** W-APT results are distributed to parents/guardians by the building EL teacher within two weeks of test completion.

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about the W-APT at the WIDA website:

<https://www.wida.us/assessment/W-APT/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.

## WIDA Screener

**Description:** The WIDA (World-class Instructional Design and Assessment) Screener is an English language proficiency assessment given to incoming students in Grades 1–12 to assist educators with the identification of students as English language learners (ELLs). Students new to our district with a first language other than English take the WIDA Screener within first month of school entry. The WIDA Screener is primarily taken online but can also be given in a paper/pencil version.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this assessment is to help educators make decisions about whether a student is a candidate for English language support services.

**Source of Requirement:** Minnesota Department of Education

**Participating Schools:** River Bluff Education Center – REACH and GCED Area Learning Center – Pathways Program (6-7) (8-12); Tower View Alternative High School

**Results:** WIDA Screener results are distributed to parents/guardians by the building EL teacher within two weeks of test completion.

**Additional Information:**

Families and community members can access further information about the WIDA Screener at the WIDA website:

<https://www.wida.us/assessment/Screener/>

Alternatively, more detailed information can be shared by contacting the River Bluff Education Center District Assessment Coordinator at 651-388-4441.