



October 18, 2016

Today the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is releasing data from the spring 2016 state assessments. This information is being made available to the public on WiseDash website (<http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/portalHome.jsp>).

In the spring of 2016 students in grades 3-11 took the Wisconsin State Assessments, which consisted of the Forward Exam in grades 3-8, the ACT Aspire in grades 9 & 10, and the ACT+Writing at grade 11, and the ACT WorkKeys. Parents were mailed individual Student Information Reports (SIR) in early September. With today's release of information the public will be able to see the percentage of students that meet state benchmarks on these assessments. The Department of Public Instruction will release specific School Report Cards in late November.

Mauston School District uses multiple forms of student measurement to determine how best to respond to student growth and achievement. These state assessments are measures of how well students have mastered the state standards in the English Language Arts and Mathematics as well as Science in grades 4, 8, & 11 and Social Studies in grades 4, 8, and 10. Overall results on the Forward Exam were down this year across the state as the Forward Exam holds students to a higher standard than the previous Badger Exam and WKCE given in previous years.

Looking at the Mauston School District testing results, you will see:

- There are no surprises – we know that we have areas where we need to improve and are have already begun improvement efforts
- Student achievement generally remains slightly below the state average
- There is positive growth in several areas – meaning that students grew at a faster pace than their peers across the state in other districts
- Wisconsin saw an expected decline in ACT scores as more students gained access and opportunity to participate in the ACT assessment as part of state testing.
- Mauston students in the class of 2016 increased participation in the ACT from below 50% to over 93% of students.

If you have additional questions regarding these assessments, please contact the building principals, Lynda Oleinik, or Dr. Weymouth.

