MJUSD 2025-2026 Assessment Calendar

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MJUSD conducts internal (MJUSD-developed) and external (State-mandated) assessments to support teaching and learning. At the district level, assessments are used for reporting purposes, data analysis and shows overall trends across schools and supports big-picture decisions about policies and resources. School site data is more focused on students and classroom, helping guide instruction, monitor progress, and plan interventions.

These assessments are annually scheduled on the calendar to allow for consistency with implementation and alignment across the district.

MJUSD Assessments

Starting 2022-2023, MJUSD expects every classroom to conduct the universal screener and the common grade-level assessments developed during the 2021-22 school year. The data from these assessments provide teachers and administrators with critical information to design student success supports, including teacher workshops, intervention, and acceleration options for improved and increased student engagement. These assessments are annually scheduled on the calendar to allow for consistency with implementation and alignment across the district.

Universal Screening

The district will conduct the STAR Ren ELA and Math in grades 2-8 and 1st grade for math twice a year to identify learning gaps at the beginning and annual growth at the end of the year.

WHY do we conduct the Universal Screener?

Universal screening is a critical first step in identifying students at risk for experiencing reading or mathematics difficulties and needing more instructional support. STAR Renaissance is being used as the universal screener, a nationally norm-referenced assessment used to determine if a student is making expected progress to succeed academically at grade level. Information gathered from Universal Screening will support tiered intervention, acceleration, Student Study Team (SST) decision-making, 504 Plans, IEPs, English Learner Reclassification, and Special Education Least Restrictive Environment placements. **All 1-8 students in MJUSD will take part in the universal screening process. District data will be available for students in grades 9-12 that assess during the optional window.**

Click to view suggested process map: **Star Universal Screener Assessment Process Map**

	STAR Reading: **Grade 2:** Students that don't have a valid score should take RDRS for baseline and end of year district data **Grades 3-8:** All students Grades 9-12: Optional	**Grades 1-8:** STAR Math* 9-12: Optional
Transitional Kinder	None	None
First Screening: Window 1 -8 9-12 (optional)	*August 18 - September 5, 2025	*August 18 - September 5, 2025
Second Screening: Window 1-8 9-12 (optional)	*May 11 - May 27, 2026	*May 11 - May 27, 2027

* Parent reports need to be sent to parents for each student after the testing window closes by the next report card date at the latest (Q1 or T1 for Fall, Q4 or T3 for Spring).

California Reading Difficulties Risk Screener (RDRS)

An LEA serving pupils in kindergarten or grades one or two must administer the screener for risk of reading difficulties, including possible neurological disorders such as dyslexia beginning no later than the 2025-26 school year, and annually thereafter. *EC* 53008(e)

In determining when during the school year to administer each screening instrument, an LEA must consider whether pupils have received sufficient instruction in foundational reading skills to support a valid assessment. Note that this requirement does not restrict LEAs from providing additional pupil screenings or diagnostic evaluations, as appropriate. *EC* 53008(e)

MJUSD uses the program *Amira* to administer the RDRS. Visit the [Amira Teacher Resource Hub](#).

Grades K-2 see RDRS information for STATE assessments also	Kindergarten: Feb (state) May (district) 1st Grade: Aug-Sep 15 (district), Feb (state), May (district) 2nd Grade: Feb (state)

* Parent reports need to be sent to parents for each student after the testing window closes by the next report card date at the latest (Q1 or T1 for Fall, Q4 or T3 for Spring).

MJUSD Assessments

Teachers develop these and will be conducted in ELA, math, and science & History Social Science in grades 7-12. These assessments are administered each semester. *[24-25 Common Assessments Master Document Titles.pdf](#)*

What is a common assessment?
A common assessment is any assessment given by two or more grade/subject level teachers with the intention of examining the results. Through a collaborative process that included analysis of state standards and board-adopted curriculum, teachers and administrators in the Marysville Joint Unified School District have identified the essential standards that make up MJUSD's guaranteed and viable curriculum.
This assessment and data are used for

1. Teacher planning and collaboration are needed to increase and improve academic rigor and ensure that all students are supported in mastering the grade-level standards.
2. Data is also used to support SST, 504, IEP, and EL Reclassification meetings.

Grade/Subject	1st common assessment window	2nd common assessment window
Elementary (K and 1: math only; no ELA)	November 3- November 21	May 11 - May 22
Middle	November 17- December 5	May 11 - May 22
High	November 17- December 5	May 11 - May 22

GATE TEST

The primary goal of the GATE program is to provide gifted students with the opportunity to reach their full academic potential. Identification for GATE typically involves a combination of standardized test scores, teacher recommendations, and parent input. MJUSD uses Pearson NNAT3 as the assessment tool.

All third-grade students	March 23 - March 27, 2026

State Assessments

ELPAC Assessment

The ELPAC is the State test used to measure how well students in K12 understand English when it is not their primary language. Information from the ELPAC helps your child's teacher provide support in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
The data is used for:
1. EL placement, instructional support during designated and integrated ELD, and reclassification to RFEP.

Initial Assessment	July 1, 2025, through the end of school
Annual Assessment	February 1 through May 31, 2026

CAASPP Assessment

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress Administration includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, the California Alternate Assessments (CAAs), the CAA for Science, the California Science Test (CAST), and the California Spanish Assessment (CSA). CAASPP data is a powerful indicator of student achievement of grade-level standards.
The data is used for
1. Teacher individual lesson planning and PLC collaboration meetings and professional development.

ELA and Math: All students in grades 3-8 and 11 Science: grades 5, 8, and once in HS	April 13 to May 15, 2026 Make Ups May 18 to May 22, 2026

California Reading Difficulties Risk Screener (RDRS)

In determining when during the school year to administer each screening instrument, an LEA must consider whether pupils have received sufficient instruction in foundational reading skills to support a valid assessment.

The legislation requiring the screening of pupils for risk of reading difficulties includes findings and declarations that speak to the purpose of the screening for risk of reading difficulties. Specifically,

- Screening pupils for risk of reading difficulties, including dyslexia, is one of many tools that educators can use to gain information about how to support pupils' learning.
- Early identification and intervention with evidence-based early literacy instructional strategies and materials improves literacy outcomes for pupils at risk of, and with, reading difficulties, including dyslexia.
- By screening all pupils for risk of reading difficulties early, California can help families and teachers achieve the best learning and life outcomes for all pupils and close academic achievement gaps. *Education Code* Section (*EC*) 53008(a)(1)(2)
- Results of a screening assessment must not be used for any high-stakes purpose, including the reclassification of those classified as English learners. *EC* 53008(m)

K-2	February* After February, any student enrolling must be screened within **45 days of enrollment**

* **Parent reports need to be sent to parents for each student after the testing window closes** by the next report card date at the latest

PFT Assessment	
Since 1996, California Education Code (EC) Section 60800 has required that each local educational agency (LEA) administer a state-designated physical fitness test (PFT) to all students in grades five, seven, and nineThe test designated for this purpose by the State Board of Education is the Fitnessgram®. ***The data is used for*** 1. Public access to this data is required as part of the EdCode. PE teachers can plan their lessons and align TK-12 activities accordingly.	
PFT- grades 5, 7, 9	Feb 1- April 30, 2026
AP Exams:	

The main reason to take an AP exam is to demonstrate mastery of rigorous college-level material. By scoring a passing grade on an AP exam (3 or above), you can earn college credit at most colleges and universities in the US and Canada.
The data is used for
  1. Teacher support is provided for student preparation for the tests.
  2. Used as a College and Career Indicator for School Sites.
  3. Measures Equity and Access to highly rigorous preparation for four-year college access	

2025-26 AP window	AP Website
College-ready tests	
2025-26 SAT dates	SAT Website
2025-26 ACT dates	ACT website
2025-26 ASVAB dates	ASVAB website
Other	
2025-26 NAEP National Assessment of Educational Progress *School/Grade selected by CDE	TBD - based on if MJUSD is selected to participate

RENAISSANCE STAR STUDENT AND STAFF SIGN-IN DIRECTIONS

Teacher Directions:

- Have students log into Clever and select the Renaissance tile
- Students will choose the test that is being administered
- Students will type in the password: admin
- Students will be prompted to select the button to begin the test

Teacher Responsibilities:

- STAR Renaissance accounts are managed through the district, and students are rostered automatically.
- The assessments are always available to teachers and require no additional planning or prepping.
- Teachers will administer the assessment to every student in their class, including students on an IEP.
- The data will be one of the many measures used to determine student interventions and supports.
- Send home parent STAR report.

Principal Responsibilities:

- Principals will ensure that the Universal Screener is administered during the screening window and when new students are enrolled.
- The data will be one of the many measures used to help determine student interventions and supports.
- This data should be discussed within staff meetings and play a significant role in the sites' intervention plan.
- The intervention plan will be shared with the Director of Data and Student Improvement.
- Ensure STAR parent report is sent home.

How-To Guides:
- District Benchmark Quick Guide for Illuminate/DnA
- Entering PFT Scores Into Illuminate/DnA
- Print Lists of Students Who Have/Have Not Taken Star
- Print Lists of Students Who Have Not Taken Common Formative Assessments
- CAASPP Online Test Administration Manual
- MJUSD CAASPP Site Coordinator Training Slideshow
- Amira Implementation Guide