



# Regional School Unit #34

## Alton, Bradley, and Old Town

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June 16, 2021 – Report to the Board

### **Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Highlights**

- State Assessment Changes
  - This year, the NWEA is the state assessment for mathematics and literacy in grades 3-8 and the third year of high school. This is the final year of the two-year contract between Maine and the NWEA, though it may be continued. Our fall test window is underway (October 4<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>); we will also conduct NWEA assessment in the spring.

Shifting to NWEA for the state assessment was a relatively easy process for RSU #34, as we have used NWEA in many grades since roughly 2005. The shift cost us a little flexibility in how we administer what was until last year a local-choice assessment, but overall the savings in instructional time more than makes up for that cost.

The NWEA is a computer-adaptive test; based on the students' responses the system chooses the next question to hone in efficiently on the student's understanding. Students and their teachers get immediate results, and the next morning detailed reports are available for the individual and the class that teachers can use to guide instruction. In contrast, with several of the previous state assessments, we tested students in March / April and did not get results until early to mid-Fall (by which point the kids had changed enough that the results were nearly useless to guide instruction).

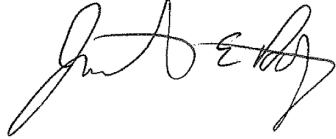
More information about the NWEA MAP Assessment can be found here: <https://www.nwea.org/map-growth/>

In my career, the state's math/literacy assessment has included: a) the MEA (Maine Educational Assessment) in grades 5, 8, 11; b) MEA given in grades 3-8 and 11; c) the NECAP; d) the Smarter Balanced; e) eMPowerME; the SAT in grade 11; and now g) the NWEA. Most of those changes occurred in the last decade.
  - Other aspects of state assessment are laid out on the last page of this report.
- Our PK-5 committees kick off for the year on Tuesday of this week. I'm grateful to our teachers who are co-chairing the committees this year:

*Every student deserves to make continuous progress in school.*

- Jenn Vafiades, Melissa Gasaway, Jen Dalessandro, and Amy Cyr (Literacy)
- Sandy Daniel (Math)
- Stacy Henry, Kristy St. Peter (Science)
- Laurie Ouellette, Bri Lolar (Social Studies)

Respectfully Submitted,



Jon Doty

### 2021-2022 MEA Administration Calendar

Assessment Title	Administration Date(s)	Administration Window	Method of Delivery	Intended For
ACCESS for ELLs English Language Proficiency	January 10 - March 4, 2022	8-weeks	Kindergarten: Paper Grades 1-12: Online	English Learners K-12
Alternate ACCESS for ELLs English Language Proficiency	January 10 - March 4, 2022	8-weeks	Paper / Pencil	English learners in Grades 1-12 with Significant Cognitive Disabilities
MSAA ELA/Literacy & Mathematics	March 14 - April 29, 2022	6-weeks	Online	Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities; Grades 3-8, & 3rd Year of High School
NWEA Mathematics, Reading & Language Usage	FALL: October 4 - 29, 2021 SPRING: May 2 - 27, 2022	4-weeks	Online	Students in Grades 3-8 & 3rd Year of High School
MSAA Science	March 14 - April 29, 2022	6 weeks	Online	Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities; Grades 5, 8, & 3rd Year of High School
Science	May 2 - 13, 2022 May 16 - 27, 2022	2 weeks 2 weeks	Online	Grades 5, 8 3rd Year of High School

\*Language Usage now required