



Talking to Parents/Guardians about Score Reports

Students taking the Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessment receive score reports following their spring assessments. These reports become available in Educator Portal over the summer, and teachers typically access them in the fall when they return to school. This guide is designed to help teachers talk about DLM score reports when meeting with parents and guardians in the fall.

For questions about school and state accountability, please contact your district test coordinator or state department of education.

A Parent Interpretive Guide for DLM score reports is located on your state's DLM webpage. Review this guide and share it with parents. Access the guide using the following steps.

1. Visit <https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/>.
2. In the banner at the top of the screen, go to the STATES tab and select your state.
3. Select the Scoring and Reporting tab.
4. Scroll down the page and select "Parent Interpretive Guide." This guide can be downloaded and printed.

Getting Ready for the Meeting

- Set a positive tone when meeting with parents/guardians to review the Parent Interpretive Guide and the student's results.
- Review the report, the Parent Interpretive Guide, and this guide to make sure you are comfortable with the language in the report.
- Think about different explanations you may need to provide to describe the report contents. If you need to modify the language in the report, be careful not to change the intended meaning. For example, it would be acceptable to substitute "reading and writing" for "English language arts" or "ELA." However, do not refer to ELA as just "reading," because the ELA assessment includes more than just reading.
- Review sections of the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL and ACCESSIBILITY MANUAL to remind yourself about topics that parents are likely to ask about.

Discussing the Score Report

The report consists of a Learning Profile. The Learning Profile summarizes the student's mastery of specific linkage levels for each assessed Essential Element. Remind parents/guardians that COVID-19 caused school and district closures and impacted the spring administration of the DLM alternate assessment. As such, Individual Student Score Reports summarize Essential Element performance on assessments the student completed during spring 2020.

Learning Profile

- This profile shows the student's mastery of certain skills, or levels, for each assessed Essential Element. Each row is one Essential Element. Each level is a skill.
- Remind parents/guardians that skills demonstrated during this assessment provide only one piece of evidence about what their child knows and can do.
- Provide examples of the Essential Elements. If appropriate, tell and/or show the parents/guardians where the Essential Elements are located on your state webpage.
- Give academic examples of the skills. Help with this can be found in the mini-maps for each Essential Element.
- Tell or show parents/guardians how the Essential Elements relate to what is being taught to grade level peers.
- Explain that the Target is the grade level expectation for all students.
- Explain the green boxes. Focus on what skills the student was able to show during the assessment. Sometimes students perform skills inconsistently. Other times they show skills during instruction but may not have shown them during the DLM alternate assessment.
- Provide examples of how the student demonstrates knowledge of this skill during instruction.
- Encourage the parent to think about the blue, gray, or white boxes as areas for future instructional goals.
- Explain the blueprint and how choices were made about which Essential Elements and levels to assess.

REPORT DATE: 03-31-2020
 SUBJECT: Mathematics
 GRADE: 10

Individual Student End-of-Year Report
 Learning Profile 2019-20



NAME: Student DLM
 DISTRICT: DLM District
 SCHOOL: DLM School

DISTRICT ID: 1234
 STATE: DLM State
 STATE ID: 123456

The Spring 2020 assessment window was significantly impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. Results show what Student was able to demonstrate while assessments were available.

Student's performance in 10th grade mathematics Essential Elements is summarized below. This information is based on all of the DLM tests Carmen took during Spring 2020. Carmen was assessed on 8 out of 8 Essential Elements and 6 out of 6 Conceptual Areas expected in 10th grade.

Demonstrating mastery of a Level during the assessment assumes mastery of all prior Levels in the Essential Element. This table describes what skills your child demonstrated in the assessment, and how those skills compare to grade level expectations.

Area	Essential Element	Estimated Mastery Level				
		1	2	3	4 (Target)	5
M.C1.3	M.EE.HS.S.CP.1-5	Combine objects in pairs and compare/contrast objects	Classify objects based on attributes	Know possible/impossible outcomes for simple events	Know dependent or independent events	Explain compound events
M.C2.1	M.EE.HS.G.CO.5	Recognize objects that are the same or different	Match 2-D and 3-D shapes with the same size and different orientation	Recognize transformation and congruent figures	Understand transformations and congruent shapes	Use transformations to describe congruence
M.C3.1	M.EE.HS.N.Q.1-3	Without counting, tell the number of objects in a set	Round decimals to any place	Solve word problems with rational numbers	Report numerical answers with a degree of precision	Solve multi-step problems with rational numbers
M.C3.2	M.EE.HS.S.ID.1-2	Classify objects and arrange objects by rule	Know bar/picture/line graphs and pie charts	Read information on different kinds of graphs	Represent data and read graphs	Use graphs to predict information
M.C3.2	M.EE.HS.S.ID.4	Recognize attributes of an object	Classify objects	Know the number of observations	Calculate mean	Calculate mode or median

Levels mastered this year
 No evidence of mastery on this Essential Element
 Essential Element not tested

This report is intended to serve as one source of evidence in an instructional planning process. Results are based only on item responses from the end of year spring assessment. Because your child may demonstrate knowledge and skills differently across settings, the estimated mastery results shown here may not fully represent what your child knows and can do.

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The format of the sample above applies to all DLM subjects. For science reports, the table within the Learning Profile will only contain three columns under “Level Mastery,” which correspond to the three linkage levels in science (Initial, Precursor, and Target).

Remember, convey to parents how the DLM alternate assessment is a part of their child’s educational journey.

Other Information

The following information may help you talk with parents/guardians about other aspects of DLM assessments. Use the TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL, found on your state’s DLM webpage, to locate other information that will help with your conversations.

About the assessment administration

- Explain that this is not a typical assessment. The students are administered 3–9 items grouped together in small testlets. Each testlet is at one level for one Essential Element.
- Explain the adaptive nature of the spring DLM assessment by telling parents that the assessment is delivered online, and when the student completes a testlet, the system will present the next testlet at a higher, lower, or the same level as the previous one based on the items the student correctly answered.
- Explain how the student accessed the assessment (computer or other device) and what accessibility supports were used.

- Explain that the testlets can be either teacher-administered or computer-delivered, depending on the student.
- Since the reports from spring testing are being shared with the parents/guardians the following fall, consider sharing the Essential Elements for the next grade the child will be taught.

Be prepared to show examples of the Essential Elements. The Essential Elements are available to share. You may explain the assessment and what the student sees on the computer screen. However, do not give specific examples of assessment items. The assessment items are secure even after test administration is complete. Example testlets that can be shared with parents/guardians are available on the DLM website at <http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/content/information-parents>.

Additionally, parents/guardians can download Student Portal and use practice activities and released testlets that are available on the DLM website to have a good understanding of what the testlets are like. Show them the [Guide to Practice Activities & Released Testlets \(pdf\)](#) so they know how to find these available testlets.

Notes: