Dear Parent or Guardian:

Maryland will be using the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment to use for our alternate assessment. The DLM assessment provides a shared set of standards that are used to measure academic achievement for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are eligible for the alternate assessment. Throughout this school year, in (SCHOOL’s NAME) your student will be provided academic instruction in English language arts, mathematics and science using the Maryland standards.

In the Fall 2021, during our state’s Early Fall testing window, your student will take testlets. We will be administering English language arts, science and mathematics tests that may be in your student’s grade. Each testlet includes questions from one or more of the standards that your student’s teacher used for instruction during the 2020-21 school year. The Early Fall window for all content areas for our state is **September 13, 2021, to October 29, 2021**.

During the Early Fall window, teachers will administer 5 testlets in each content area. The approximate length of time for testing may vary depending on the content, the grade-level, and each student’s individual needs. The materials used in the testlets can be adapted to meet your student’s needs. The testlets must be completed during our state’s testing window, but your student may take the testlets over a period of several days during that window as needed.

We anticipate that testing time will be as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Content Area Tested | Number of Testlets  | Approximate length of time, depending on grade level and student’s individual needs |
| English language arts | 5 testlets | will vary per student, grade level and content area |
| Mathematics | 5 testlets | will vary per student, grade level and content area |
| Science | 5 testlets | will vary per student, grade level and content area |

Your student’s results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-346). Scores from the testlets will be used according to our district policy.

If you would like additional information about Dynamic Learning Maps, please visit <http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/>. If you have questions, please contact me at [TELEPHONE NUMBER] or via e-mail [E-MAIL ADDRESS].

We are excited that our district will take part in the Dynamic Learning Maps alternate assessment this year, and we are very pleased that your student will be participating.

Sincerely,

**School Principal**