

**Union 103 and Moosabec CSD
Testing Policy – Annual Notice**

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Union 103 and Moosabec CSD receive federal funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which was amended in 2015. This law necessitates the adoption of rigorous academic standards and assessments to measure growth relative to those standards, by all states. Subjects measured by these tests will include math, reading or language arts, and science, as well as others if the state chooses. Under this law, states are also required to have tests of English proficiency for students who are English learners. The final type of test states are required to develop is an alternative assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. At the high school level, districts may request to use a local test instead of the state test.

The data provided by these assessments is essential for teachers, schools, districts, and the state to identify strengths and areas of need. Assessments are a means to improve instruction, measure progress towards school goals, and identify schools that may need extra support. The goal of Union 103 is to have all students participate in these assessments.

Union 103 and Moosabec CSD utilize all assessment data to help inform our practices at the district, school, classroom and individual levels for our students. Although we encourage students and parents to participate fully in our assessment program, it is important to note that parents/guardians may opt their child out of state testing. If you are interested in doing so, please reach out to your child's principal to make this request in writing. You have the right to request any state or district policy regarding student participation in tests. The district policies are also available on our website, www.union103.org.

Please see the next page for a list of assessments. If you have any questions about the benefits of state or district testing, please contact:

Lewis Collins, Superintendent
127 Snare Creek Lane
Jonesport, ME 04649
497-2154
lewis.collins@union103.org

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Assessment	Grade Level	Subject Matter	Purpose	Requiring Source	Duration	Schedule	Time and Format for Distributing Results
NWEA	Kind. - Tenth	Math Reading Language Science	Inform instruction, gauge progress towards standards	State	Untimed – varies, approx. 45 minutes per subject	Fall Winter (some students) Spring	Parent Teacher Conferences, Report cards
Observation Survey	First	Reading	To determine eligibility for Reading Recovery	Local	Varies – 45+ minutes	Fall Winter Spring	Once all students are assessed, families are notified by letter if a student is selected.
Benchmark Assessments	First Second	Reading, Math	Inform instruction, gauge progress towards standards	Local	About 60 minutes per test	1-2 times per year	Quarterly Report Cards
MEA	Third- Eighth	Literacy Math Science	Inform instruction, gauge progress towards standards	State	35-80 minutes per test	Spring	Letter sent when results are available. District Report Card link posted online.
PSAT	Ninth – Eleventh	Reading Writing/ Language Math	Inform instruction, gauge progress towards standards	Local	Two hours 45 minutes total	Fall	Results available online.
SAT	Eleventh	Reading Writing Math	Inform instruction, gauge progress towards standards	State	25-65 minutes per test	Spring	Emailed to students when available.