



## 2020-21 Testing Overview

### September/October/December/February

ACT – National Test Dates: September 12, October 24, December 12, February 6

District Test Date: March 2                      Grade 11

\*Subject to cancellation/postponement based on ACT and/or MDE/MDH guidelines\*

ACT (American College Testing) is a standardized/college entrance exam composed of five sections: English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing. The ACT is based on what students learn in high school and provides personalized information about their strengths for education and career planning. This testing is required per Minnesota Statutes 120B.30.

### October

PSAT - October 14                                      Grades 10-11

\*Subject to cancellation/postponement based on MDE/MDH guidelines\*

Standardized/Pre-SAT and National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Exam composed of four sections: Reading, Writing and Language, Math (no calculator) and Math (with calculator). Questions focus on the skills and knowledge around what you learn in high school and what you need to succeed in college. This testing is required per Minnesota Statutes 120B.30.

ACT Aspire – October 27-30   Grades 3-10

\*Subject to cancellation/postponement based on MDE/MDH guidelines\*

The ACT Aspire standardized tests are given in English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing. The ACT Aspire provides longitudinal data about student progress from year to year and aligns with the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards. This test is administered to satisfy our charter authorizer's requirement of having a second metric by which we measure student achievement (in addition to MCA tests).

### April

MCA - April 5 – April 23                      Grades 3-11

\*Subject to cancellation/postponement based on MDE/MDH guidelines\*

MCA (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment) tests are standardized state tests that help districts measure student progress toward Minnesota's academic standards. Students are tested in Math (grades 3-8 and 11), Reading (grades 3-8 and 10), and Science (Grades 5, 8, and 9). MCA testing is required per Minnesota Statutes 120B.30 and the ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act).

### May

AP Exams – May 3 - 14   Grades 10-12

\*Subject to cancellation/postponement based on CDC/MDE/MDH guidelines\*

AP (Advanced Placement) standardized exams are designed to measure how well students mastered the content and skills of the AP course - a successful score can earn students credit and advanced placement in college.