



November 27, 2023

Dear RCPS Families,

During the 2021 session, the Virginia General Assembly passed House Bill 2027 that requires the implementation of “through year” growth assessments in grades 3-8 called the Virginia Growth Assessments (VGA). Although these tests measure the same content as the Standards of Learning (SOL) reading and math tests given in the spring, they are not used to assign a passing or failing score to a student. Rather, they are used to baseline a student’s proficiency in reading and math and then track their progress during the course of the school year. In Rockbridge County Public Schools, these required assessments will be administered to learners in grades 3-8 between **December 4-8, 2023**. This will be our winter administration. Below are some important details you should know about these assessments:

- These assessments are in Reading and Mathematics only and must be taken at school. All learners are required to participate.
- The Reading assessments range between 17-19 questions and the Mathematics assessments range between 20-25 questions.
- Learners will be tested on the content from their *current* grade level. For example, if your learner is currently a fourth grader, then he or she will be tested on content taught during the fourth grade year. This will help us understand what your learner knows and identify areas where he or she may need additional support for the rest of this school year.
- Eighth grade learners enrolled in Algebra I will not have to take a Growth Assessment in Mathematics.
- There is no passing or failing score for the reading or mathematics assessments.
- Learners should do their best to answer the questions that are asked on these assessments. If they are unsure how to answer a question, they should pick the answer they think is best and move to the next question.
- Families will receive a “Student Detail by Question” report of their learner’s performance on the Reading and Mathematics Growth Assessments for both the Fall and Winter test administrations in December.

Your child’s school will share information about the specific days in which the assessments will take place. If you have any questions about the Growth Assessments, please contact your child’s principal at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melanie E. Falls". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melanie E. Falls, Ed.D.  
Director of Testing and Instructional Data  
Rockbridge County Public Schools

## MRMS Winter Growth Assessment Schedule

December 4<sup>th</sup> – December 8<sup>th</sup>

Date	Test	Time
<b>Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Reading Growth Assessment	6 <sup>th</sup> grade – 8:48 am 7 <sup>th</sup> grade – 9:41 am 8 <sup>th</sup> grade – 12:22 pm
Tuesday, December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Reading Make-Ups	After SOAR, 9:00 am
<b>Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Math Growth Assessments	6 <sup>th</sup> grade – 8:48 am 7 <sup>th</sup> grade – 9:41 am 8 <sup>th</sup> grade – 12:22 pm
Thursday, December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Math Make-ups Reading Make-ups	After SOAR, 9:00 am
Friday, December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Make-ups, if necessary	After SOAR, 9:00 am

Once the testing period has begun, students cannot enter or leave the testing room except for bathroom breaks.

\*If a student is tardy to school and testing for the grade level has started, the student will be held in the office and will have to complete the test on a make-up day.

\*If a student needs to leave early due to appointments, please let us know so we do not have them start the test. Once a student begins the test, the student cannot leave the testing room until it is complete.

We are hopeful that the test will take approximately 1 class period, however, some students do take longer to test and they are provided the time to complete the assessment.