



# What Parents and Students Should Know About Formative and Interim Assessments for 2020-2021



## WHAT ARE **FORMATIVE** ASSESSMENTS AND WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

- **Formative** assessments are on-going tests used before, during, and after short rounds of instruction to guide student learning.
- The results of the tests provide teachers and students with information about student learning and help teachers plan next steps for instruction.

## WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF **FORMATIVE** ASSESSMENTS USED IN FONTANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (FUSD)?

- Teachers have access to several different kinds of **formative** assessments:
  - Teacher-created tests and assignments
  - Site-created tests
  - District-created tests and performance tasks
  - State-created tests and performance tasks (The state-created tests are called Interim Assessment Blocks or IABs.)
- Students are required to take at least **three Common Formative Assessments (CFAs)** throughout the school year. These three CFAs can be any combination of site, district, and state-created tests.

## HOW DO SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS USE THE RESULTS FROM **CFAs**?

- **CFAs** provide students and teachers with frequent data to inform teachers and students about their learning.
- **CFAs** support teachers working together to constantly improve instruction for ALL students.
- **CFAs** may be used by teachers to inform student progress for grading purposes, but grading is not the primary purpose of a **CFA**.

## WHAT ARE **INTERIM-GROWTH MONITORING ASSESSMENTS** AND WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

- **Interim-Growth Monitoring Assessments (I-GMAs)** are occasional tests used to measure student growth over time.
- The results of the **I-GMAs** provide the district, schools, teachers, and students with information about student learning and improvement toward instructional goals.

## WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF **INTERIM-GROWTH MONITORING ASSESSMENTS** USED IN FONTANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (FUSD)?

- Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) for Grades K-12
- The SAT Suite of Assessments (PSAT, SAT) for Grades 9-12 (optional for students in the 2020-2021 school year)

## HOW DO SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS USE THE RESULTS FROM **INTERIM-GROWTH MONITORING ASSESSMENTS**?

- The **I-GMAs** are a chance for students to show what they know and don't know.
- Students' test scores are **NOT** graded or used for report cards.
- The district and schools use the results yearly to measure progress towards instructional goals.

## WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

- Your teacher
- Your school administrators

The following websites (click the links):

- [MAP Parent Resources](#)
- [SAT Suite Parent Resources](#)
- [MAP Student Resources](#)
- [SAT Suite Student Resources](#)