



Dear parent/guardian,

Students throughout the state will take a new assessment this spring. Alaska Measures of Progress (AMP) replaces the Standards Based Assessments (SBA). Like the SBAs, students in grades 3-10 will take the AMP test to help determine their progress over the course of the year. Unlike the SBAs, AMP is computer-based.

With this new computer-based test, students will have fewer multiple-choice questions. Instead, students will have to analyze the question, perform multi-step tasks, solve problems and apply what they know to new situations. That's the kind of thinking that employers and colleges look for. On math problems, students may drag and drop items or plot points on a graph. In answering a language arts question, students might highlight text or put sentences in a sequence. By using computers, students actively participate in the test.

The Anchorage School District has spent many months getting ready for these computer-based assessments. One important step is to do a trial run to see what kinds of technology challenges, if any, we might encounter with our computers or the Internet.

On **Thursday, Jan. 29**, schools across the state of Alaska will participate in **AMP It Up Day**. The goal of this day is to have as many students as possible taking a practice test so we can find out what final technology or logistics preparations we need to make for testing in the spring.

Many students will participate in AMP It Up Day at our school. It will be scheduled so that it does not interrupt classroom instruction. Most students will spend between 30 and 45 minutes taking the practice test. Teachers will help students understand the questions and how to answer them if needed. Students will not receive grades for this test. Our goal is to help students, and our school, be better prepared for the new test this spring.

More information about AMP can be found on our website at www.asdk12.org/ae/amp. Please contact your classroom teacher if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

School principal