

Overview of Assessments in Alaska

Dr. Randy Trani, Mat-Su Borough School District and ASA President
Dr. Cyndy Mika, Kodiak Island Borough School District



Assessment Vocabulary

Formative Assessment

- Used to inform instruction

Summative Assessment

- Used to measure a student's understanding against a standard criteria at the end of a unit of study

Standard-Based Assessment

- Used to measure student's mastery of standards for specific knowledge or skills

Screeners

- The process of collecting valid and reliable data multiple times a year with all students

Adaptive

- A computer-based assessment that adjusts in level of difficulty based on student responses

State of Alaska Assessments

mClass DIBELS

Early
Literacy
Screeners

3 times a
year

Kinder - 3rd
Grade

Reads Act: students not
proficient result in
Individual Reading Plan

MAP Growth / AKStar

Reading,
Language
Usage, &
Math

3 times a
year

3rd Grade -
9th Grade

Integrated with AKStar in
the Spring with Alaska
Standards embedded

Alaska Science Assessment

Science

1 time in the
Spring

5th, 8th, 10th
Grade

Formative vs. Summative Analogy

Formative assessments are like diagnostic blood tests.

They guide decisions while learning is still in progress.

- MAP Growth Testing in the Fall and Winter, DIBELS testing

Summative assessments are like a final medical report after discharge.

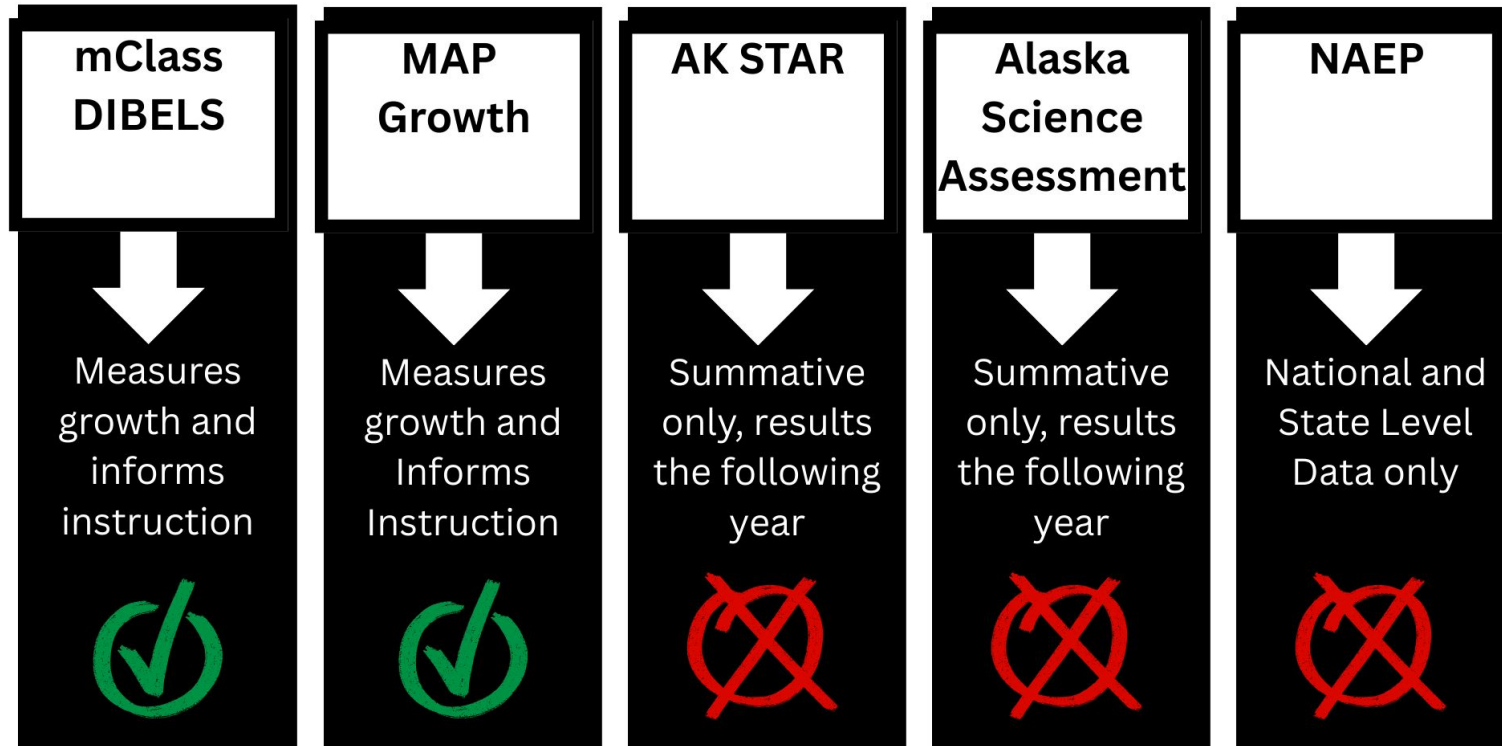
They document what occurred, but they don't shape the care until the next year.

- AK STAR MAP Testing in the Spring

NAEP is like an autopsy report.

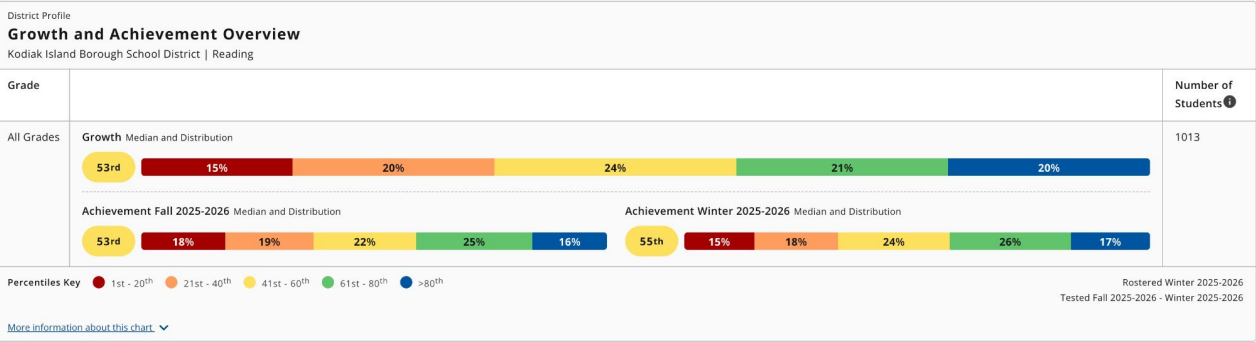
It arrives long after the fact, without identifying individual patients, classrooms, or schools. It can tell the state what happened overall, but it offers no actionable information for an individual district to change outcomes for the students it serves.

Efficacy of Alaska Assessments for Measuring Growth



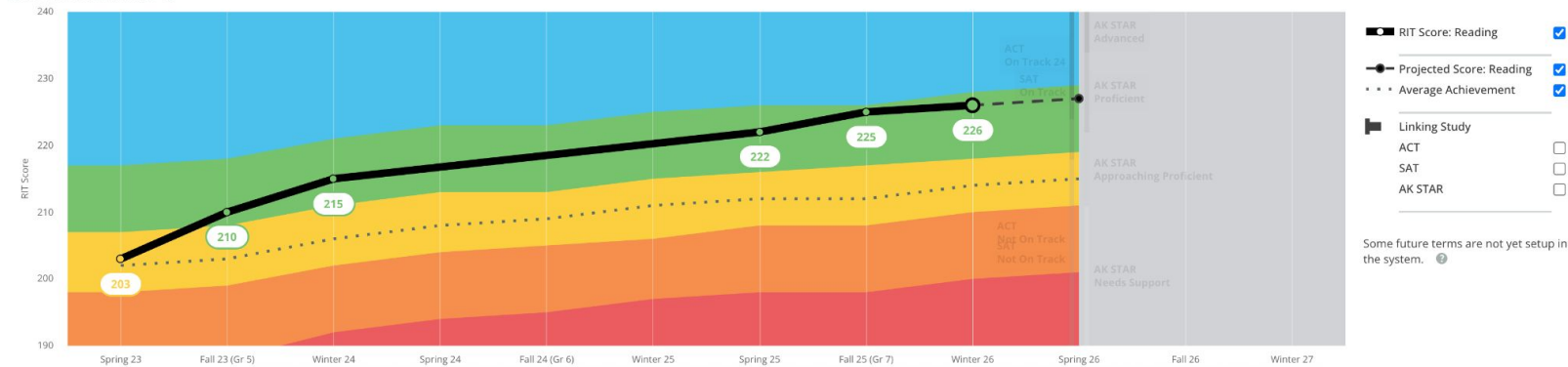
MAP Growth

Kodiak Island Borough School District



District, School, and Student Level Proficiency and Growth Reports Available Immediately.

GROWTH OVER TIME



mClass DIBELS

Beginning of Year Middle of Year End of Year Summary				
Class Summary		Beginning of Year	Middle of Year	End of Year
	Well Below Benchmark	79% 11 Students	54% 7 Students	-
	Below Benchmark	7% 1 Student	8% 1 Student	-
	At Benchmark	7% 1 Student	23% 3 Students	-
13/15 Students Assessed	Above Benchmark	7% 1 Student	15% 2 Students	-
2 Not Assessed				
0 In Progress				

District, School, Class, and Student Level data is available immediately. Students on Individual Reading Plans data is tracked at the skill level allowing teachers to adjust instruction for student need.

BOY Composite	MOY Composite	Composite Growth	Skill	Benchmark Scores		Growth		Goal	
				BOY	MOY	Needed	Achieved	Set	Met
265 Well Below	383 Benchmark	+118 Well Above Average	Letter Names LNF	10 Well Below	40 Benchmark	+27 Above Average	+30 Above Average	37 Benchmark	✓ Yes
			Phonemic Awareness PSF	0 Well Below	36 Benchmark	+29 Above Average	+36 Well Above Average	29 Benchmark	✓ Yes
			Letter Sounds NWF-CLS	Discont'd	33 Benchmark	+25 Above Average	+33 Well Above Average	25 Benchmark	✓ Yes
			Decoding NWF-WRC	Discont'd	7 Benchmark	+3 Above Average	+7 Above Average	3 Benchmark	✓ Yes
			Word Reading WRF	Discont'd	2 Below	+4 Average	+2 Average	4 Benchmark	✗ No






Alignment of NAEP to School District Needs

NAEP is a reporting tool, not an improvement tool.

What NAEP Does

- Provides **state-level snapshots** every 2–4 years
- Tests **only a sample of students** and in Alaska, **that sample can be very small** especially in rural areas
- Allows **national comparisons** between states
- Useful for **federal and national policy discussions**

What NAEP Does *Not* Do

-  Does **not** provide student-level data
-  Does **not** provide school- or district-level results
-  Does **not** measure individual student growth
-  Does **not** inform instruction or intervention
-  Does **not** allow educators to respond in real time

Shortcomings and Success of Alaska Assessments and NAEP from a District Perspective

	mClass DIBELS	MAP Growth	AK STAR	NAEP
Data by Student	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Data by School	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Growth Data	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Timely Data	Yes	Yes	No	No
All Students	Yes, sort of	Yes, sort of	Sort of	No
Statewide Data	Yes, but not timely	No	Yes, but not timely	Sort of, Sample of students only

Overall Alaska State Testing Requirements

mClass DIBELS	Early Literacy Screener	3 times a year	Kinder - 3rd Grade	Reads Act: students not proficient result in Individual Reading Plan	Meets Reads Act Requirements and informs instruction
MAP Growth / AKStar	Reading, Language Usage, & Math	3 times a year	3rd Grade - 9th Grade	Integrated with AKStar in the Spring with Alaska Standards embedded	Meets Federal ESEA Requirements and informs instruction
Alaska Science Assessment	Science	1 time in the Spring	5th, 8th, 10th Grade		Meets Federal ESEA Requirements

Thank you! Questions?

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