



# Madison City Schools Parent Guide *Understanding ACT Aspire Results* Grades 3-8



Dear Parent(s):

Your child's assessment scoring report from the ACT Aspire that was administered in the spring is attached. This parent guide has been created to assist you in interpreting your child's scores. If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

The information is reported in two ways: **Current Progress Report** and **Supplemental Score Report**.

**Current Progress Report:** This report provides scores that assist in answering the question "*How is my child progressing toward unlocking his or her potential in preparing for college and a career?*"

For each subject tested, your child received a three digit scale score. All students were given the reading and math tests. Fifth and seventh grade students also took the science test. The score for each subject is reported in one of four levels of progress: *Exceeding, Ready, Close, or In Need of Support*. Each level indicates the mastery of certain benchmarks. Students in the *Ready* category have met the ACT Readiness Benchmark and are on target for 50% or higher likelihood of college course success by grade 11.

A two year predicted path is indicated by an orange cone within the graph. This represents a projected range of scores based upon expected growth in achievement. Previous years' results, if available, are plotted within the graph for each subject area to identify growth over time.

A skill performance is given for each test administered. The total number correct out of the total possible, along with the percentage correct, is given for each of the skill areas. An improvement or enrichment idea is also provided for the lowest skill area score.

Definitions of scoring terms are given at the bottom of the student report page.

**Supplemental Score Report:** This report provides information in answering the question "*How can additional performance measures inform decisions?*" This report includes the *National Percentile Rank* for each test, a *STEM* score for grades 5 and 7, as well as *Progress with Text Complexity* indicator.

*National Percentile Rank:* The national percentile rank shows the percentage of other students in the nation who received a score equal to or lower than the displayed score for the grade and subject tested.

*STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics:* Students in Grades 5 and 7 received a STEM score. The STEM score is an average of the Science and Math test scores, and represents the overall performance on these assessments relative to the ACT Readiness Range. Your child's score will be marked as "Below Readiness," or "Ready."

*Progress with Text Complexity Indicator:* This is an indication of how well your child is able to demonstrate understanding of the central meaning and purposes of increasingly complex texts. The student performance on the text complexity progress measure is compared to a readiness level from the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. Students who perform below the benchmark level receive recommendations for improvements such as practicing reading increasingly difficult complex texts, from a variety of genres/subjects.

**ACT Aspire resources are available on our district website:**

[www.madisoncity.k12.al.us](http://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us)