Dear Families,

We want to share an update about your child's MAP Growth assessment results. Starting this fall, MAP Growth will use an updated set of national norms to help interpret student scores. Norms are used to determine how students perform compared to their peers. These newly released 2025 norms are based on more recent data from 2022 to 2024 and reflect how students across the country are performing after the COVID-19 pandemic. Updating norms every few years is necessary to reflect a more recent national sample, making percentile comparisons more relevant to today's students. While the test scale itself is unchanged, the new norms provide updated context for interpreting student achievement and growth.

Updated norms enable educators to evaluate student and school achievement and growth, individualize instruction and set goals with students, and support conversations about achievement and growth patterns.

What does this mean for your child?
Your child will receive a RIT score as they do each year. You may notice that your child's percentile ranking looks different than before— even if their score hasn't changed. This is because the national comparison group has changed, not your child's performance. The RIT score still measures your child's academic growth and achievement reliably over time.

What's changed in the norms themselves?
Overall shifts in achievement: The national distribution of achievement has shifted downward and become less consistent and harder to predict. This mirrors findings from COVID-related research, which show that the pandemic negatively impacted student performance.

How can you learn more?
NWEA has created resources including a Norms Overview and Toolkit, located at https://connection.nwea.org/s/norms-toolkit?language=en_US, to help educators understand these changes. If you have questions or want to talk more about your child's progress, we're here to support you.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's learning journey.

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