



**Will County School District 92**  
"A Community Partnership Dedicated to Children"

Walsh Elementary School  
Reed Elementary School  
Ludwig Elementary School  
Oak Prairie Junior High School

October 13, 2020

Dear Parents,

The 2020-21 school year has started out great! The dedication and enthusiasm of teachers, students, and parents has been remarkable as we continue to educate our students during a pandemic. The school year will definitely look and feel different for everybody. As we maintain a sense of normalcy for our students, we are responsible to provide a rigorous curriculum along with addressing social emotional needs of everybody.

As a district, our focus is to meet the learning and social emotional needs of our students. In order to identify those needs, data is needed to drive our instruction. Continuing our FastBridge benchmark assessment during the Fall, Winter, and Spring during the 2020-21 school year will provide an overview of effectiveness of instruction at the district, school, grade, classroom, and individual level. The purpose of benchmark assessments is not to determine content mastery. Instead the goal of benchmarking is to identify students' academic strengths and weaknesses and use that information to guide future instruction, and support success on later summative and high-stakes tests. Also, trend data will be used to compare data points for cohorts over time.

D92 students in grades K-8 will be participating in our Fall benchmark assessment. Students in grades 2-8 will be taking the FastBridge assessment the last two weeks in October and grades K-1 will continue common assessments.

- Grades 2-8
  - Fast aReading
  - Fast aMath
- Grades K-1
  - Common Assessments

The district has made modifications to the benchmark assessment with the safety of students and staff in mind. To maintain safety, grades K-1 will be using Common Assessments in the Fall and Fast earlyReading and Fast earlyMath in Winter and Spring. Results from the Winter 2021 FastBridge benchmark for grades K-8 will be compared to results from Winter 2020. FastBridge provides criterion-referenced scores that will then be assimilated into reports to characterize the performance of individuals and groups within the district.

Let's work together to fulfill our mission in D92: To empower each child to develop a love of learning in an ever-changing global society.

Please reach out if you should have any questions.

Warm regards,

*Jamie McCluskey*  
Director of Curriculum