

Educators use assessments for a variety of purposes. The information below describes some of the assessments we use at Dassa McKinney Elementary School.

### **Aimswebplus:**

Aimswebplus is an assessment tool that uses standards-aligned reading and math measures to screen and monitor individual student progress. The benchmark assessments of this tool are administered to students in grades K-2 three times per year (fall, winter, and spring), and data collected is compared to established cut scores and national or local norms. The results help educators identify and group students at risk, personalize instruction, evaluate student progress, demonstrate expected annual growth, and serve as a communication tool for system improvement.

### **Study Island Benchmark Assessments:**

Study Island Benchmark Assessments are administered in grades 3-6 to assess student progress toward meeting state standards in reading and math. These assessments expose students to the content and types of items/tasks that they will experience on the PSSAs and provide valuable information to inform instruction. They are administered three times per year (fall, winter, and spring).

### **Heggerty Benchmark Assessments:**

The Heggerty Benchmark Assessments measure a student's ability to recognize and work with sounds in spoken language. They include tasks involving syllables, rhyme, and individual units of speech sound called phonemes. These assessments are aligned to the Heggerty Phonological Awareness curricula that is taught in the primary grades and can be used to measure individual student progress with instruction.

### **95 Percent Group Assessment Tools:**

95 Percent Group Assessment Tools are diagnostic assessments used to pinpoint specific foundational reading skill deficits. The Phonics Screener for Intervention (PSI) assesses a student's understanding of the relationship between sounds and written symbols. These types of assessments are typically administered after a

student is flagged to be at risk in an area of reading achievement on a benchmark assessment in order to gain insight as to why/where a student may be struggling and guide next steps for instruction.

**Exact Path:**

Exact Path combines adaptive diagnostic assessments with individualized learning pathways that are aligned to Common Core Standards to promote growth for students in math, reading, and language arts. Exact Path tailors learning to each student's academic goals, and is currently being used in Grades 3-6 and administered in the fall, winter, and spring.