



## Westfield Washington Schools

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Sherry L. Grate, Ed.D., Superintendent

May 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian of a Kindergarten student,

Your child participated in the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) in the spring. The test assessed students' abilities in reasoning and problem solving using verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal symbols. The verbal area corresponds to language arts concepts, the quantitative area corresponds to math concepts, and the nonverbal area corresponds to reasoning and spatial concepts. As a reminder, your child had scored 80<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on the CogAT Screener to take the complete CogAT test.

Enclosed are your child's results. For each of the areas, the report shows how well your child did and an overall score comparing nationally against children of the same age and grade level. The 5<sup>th</sup> stanine or 50<sup>th</sup> percentile rank is average. An overview and narratives provide additional details about your child's performance with information on areas of strengths and opportunities for growth. Please remember this test is different from NWEA and is only one measure of your child's performance during the 2018-19 school year.

Testing results provide our staff information for educational programming and our Response to Instruction (RtI) process. RtI is the continuum of identification and services that we provide to all of our students based on their performance and abilities.

A combination of scores from the Spring NWEA and CogAT (with a 96<sup>th</sup> percentile minimum) are used to determine high ability. If your child met the qualification for high ability identification, you will also be receiving notification enclosed with these results. If you have any questions or would like to appeal your child's scores, please contact your child's assistant principal no later than **June 7**.

As we strive to meet the instructional needs of all students using multiple sources of information, your child will continue to receive the appropriate levels of instruction next school year. All students in first grade are grouped by ability during small group reading and math instruction. All students will be retested in 2nd grade. As students continue at WMS and WHS, there are additional opportunities to enter accelerated and advanced courses without the high ability identification label. For example, PSAT results are used in 9th-11th grades to identify students who are ready for Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

If you have questions, please contact the following:

- Classroom instruction or testing results: your child's assistant principal;
- High ability program, Carrie Alday, Director of Elementary Curriculum, Instruction, and Talent Development, 317-867-8009; or
- Testing program, Lynn Scheme!, Director of Organizational Systems, Assessment, and Analysis, 317-867-8004.

Thank you for your continued partnership in the success of your child.

Lynn Scheme!, Director of Organizational Systems, Assessment, and Analysis