

# Niles Community Schools Balanced Assessment System



**Balanced Assessment System**  
Knowing the purpose of the assessments you use and analyze. (Balanced does not mean equal)



**PLC**  
Safe, regular meetings focused on student learning



**Increased Student Learning**  
Data-based decision making leads to increased student engagement and learning

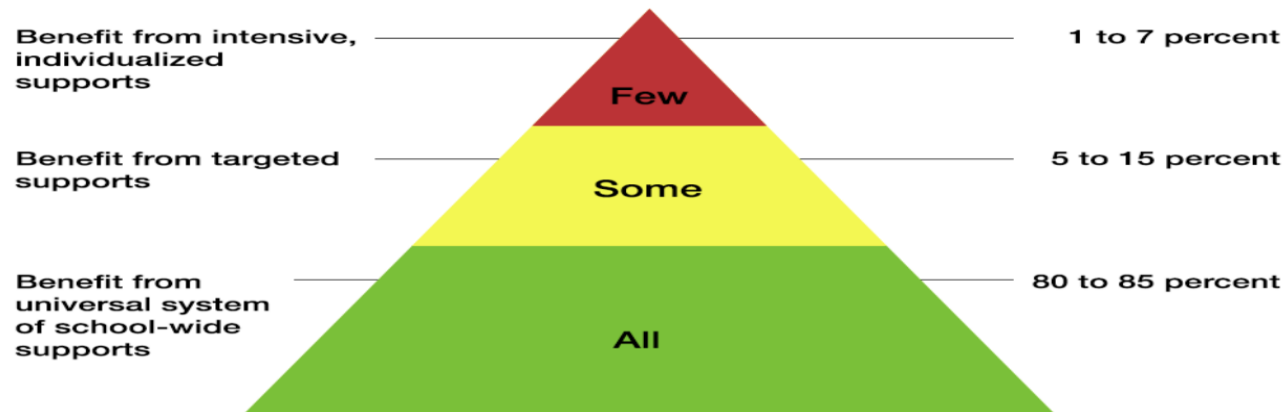


**PLC Question 1: What do we want all kids to know and be able to do?**

**PLC Question 2: How do we know if they know it?**

**PLC Question 3: What do we do if they don't?**

**PLC Question 4: What do we do if they do?**



Data Source	State Required Assessments: Purpose	Assesment Dates	Grade Levels/Departments	Teacher Evaluation
PSAT/SAT	To determine the effectiveness of Tier One instruction. Tier 1 instruction is effective if 80% or more of students are at benchmark	Fall, Spring	Grades 8-11	Yes
M-STEP	To determine the effectiveness of Tier One instruction. Tier 1 instruction is effective if 80% or more of students are at benchmark	Spring	ELA & Math: Grades 3-8, and 11 Science & Social Studies: Grades 5, 8 & 11	Yes
Kindergarten Readiness Assessment	The KRA is a developmentally appropriate assessment tool designed to measure school readiness of incoming kindergartners across four domains: Language & Literacy, Mathematics, Social Foundations and Physical Well-Being and Motor Development.	Fall	Kindergarten Only	No
Data Source	Local Assessments: Purpose	Assesment Dates	Grade Levels/Departments	Teacher Evaluation
NWEA	To determine if Tier One curriculum and instruction is effective. Tier 1 instruction is effective if 80% or more of students are at benchmark. Additionally this can be utilized to determine which students which additional testing to ascertain areas for growth.	Fall, Winter, Spring	K-7 ELA & Math KC Fall-Spring	Yes
Delta Math	<p>Fall &amp; Winter: To determine readiness for grade level content in mathematics. Students are screened over prior grade level standards. Progress monitoring throughout intervention cycles.</p> <p>Spring: To determine the extent to which students have mastered priority grade level standards. Additionally to determine the effectiveness of Tier One instruction. Progress monitoring throughout intervention cycles.</p>	Fall, Winter, Spring	K-9 KC Fall-Spring	Not required
DIBELS	To determine if Tier One curriculum and instruction is effective. Tier 1 instruction is effective if 80% or more are at benchmark.	Fall, Winter, Spring	K-5 KC Winter-Spring	Not required

Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark (F&P)	Formative Assessment used to determine student’s independent and instructional reading levels. Used to observe students’ reading behaviors one-on-one, engage in comprehension conversations and make informed decisions that connect assessment to instruction.	Fall, Winter Spring	K-5	Not required
Common Formative Assessments	<p>This assessment <b>FOR</b> learning can be utilized to identify students who need additional support and those students who are in need of extension. Assessments are aligned to power/essential standards.</p> <p>Formative assessment is a planned, ongoing process used by all students and teachers during learning and teaching to elicit and use evidence of student learning to improve student understanding of intended disciplinary learning outcomes and support students to become more self-directed learners.</p>	Year Round	K-8 Math Only (Required for all subject areas within the next 2-3 years)	Not required
Common Summative Assessments	This assessment <b>OF</b> learning can be utilized to identify students who need additional support and those students who are in need of extension. Assessments are aligned to power/essential standards.	Year Round	K-8 Math Only (Required for all subject areas within the next 2-3 years)	Not required