

SAMPLE: Please revise as you see fit.

High School Version

To be modified according to each school's implementation plan

August 2002

Dear Parents/Guardians,

During the first few weeks of the school year, all ninth grade students will be taking Poway Unified School District's newly developed assessment, Measures of Academic Progress or "MAPs". Developed by the Poway Unified School District in collaboration with Northwest Evaluation Association, MAPs precisely measures each child's academic growth from year to year in the areas of reading, and language usage. The results provide essential diagnostic information to help the teacher develop a learning plan for each child.

Each test takes about one hour to administer and is taken using a computer. The test is "computer adaptive". This means that the software instantly evaluates each answer and, based upon the question's degree of difficulty and the correctness of the response, selects the next question specifically designed to evaluate the student's level of understanding. In essence, the test is customized for every student as it is being taken.

Students in grade nine will take the test this year. Eventually, the District plans to administer MAPs annually to all students in grades four through nine

Following each testing period, parents will receive reports that show their child's academic progress for the school year and the skills to be learned next.

For more information regarding MAPs, contact Ray Wilson, Director of Learning Support Services at 748-0010, extension 2279.

We believe MAPs will help sharpen our focus on student achievement and provide parents, students and teachers with valuable information about each student's academic progress.

Sincerely,