Dear Parent/Guardian:

Students will be participating in the Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment during the March 22 – May 14, testing window, as determined by their Individualized Education Program (IEP) team.  State assessments, including DLM, are required by both State (Wisconsin State Statute s. 118.30) and Federal (Every Student Succeeds Act) Law. Participation in State assessments can help determine the impact the pandemic has had on academic achievement and equity. Equitable testing is important because clearly knowing the performance of all students is the first step in closing achievement gaps. We must know exactly which gaps exist, the size of the gaps, and the persistence of the gaps. Your student is scheduled to take the DLM \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Face-to-face assessment is the only viable method for the state assessments. The company who produces the test has no remote (virtual) testing option available. Proctored, on-site testing ensures standardized administration that includes equitable access to technology and optimal testing environments, test security, and validity.

We are taking every precaution to ensure a safe testing environment. We are following procedures recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Department of Health Services (DHS) including social distancing, flexible schedules and the frequent sanitization of student spaces and equipment. *[Customize to fit your school’s plans and/or include a local planning document.]*

The DLM assessment tests students with the most significant cognitive disabilities in areas of English language arts (ELA) and mathematics at grades 3-11, science at grades 4 and 8-11, and in social studies at grades 4, 8, and 10. Each student is administered the test on an individual basis, and may take the test over several days, as long as it is completed within the testing window. Please make sure students are healthy before sending them to school. Keep students home who are ill or have been exposed to COVID-19. Students not in school on testing days will be scheduled for a make-up test prior to the close of the testing window.

Enclosed is a *DLM Assessment Information for Families* brochure that provides more information about the assessment including its purpose, what scores will be provided, and how the scores will be used. All results of the DLM are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Public Law 107-346).

The DLM assessment measures the knowledge and skills students should have for their grade-level based on the Wisconsin Essential Elements. Their performance on the assessment will not affect their current grades. Please encourage students to take the test seriously and do the best they can. The results of these tests will be used to help school staff make determinations regarding curriculum, placement, and services to best support students.

*[Include information about materials students will need to bring on testing day (e.g. Device, headset, charging cable, mouse, mousepad).]*

If you have any questions, please contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you,

*[Name]*, Principal