

920 21st Street South • Menomonie, WI 54751• Phone (715) 232-1673 • FAX (715) 232-5486 School District Web Page • http://msd.k12.wi.us

## **BART BOETTCHER**

Principal

MARK ANDERSON

Assistant Principal

March 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Soon your student will be taking the Wisconsin Forward Exam, which is part of the Wisconsin Student Assessment System. The Forward Exam is a large-scale, standardized achievement test designed to assess what students know in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards.

Test dates:

Social Studies (8th Grade Only): April 3rd & 4th

Science (8th Grade Only): April 5th & 9th

Language Arts (Grades 6, 7, & 8): April 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, & 13<sup>th</sup> Math (Grades 6, 7, & 8): April 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, & 18<sup>th</sup>

Parents play an important role in helping children prepare for the assessment. Some suggestions to help your child include:

- \* Make sure your child is in school and on time for the test dates.
- \* Make sure your child is well rested and eats a healthy breakfast.
- \* If possible please avoid appointments & interruptions for students on these dates.
- $^st$  Make sure your child brings a set of headphones for the listening test on Thursday, April  $12^{ ext{th}}.$

On March 26<sup>th</sup> you will receive an electronic copy of our *Informational Brochure for Families* via email, which gives more information about the assessment including its purpose, what scores will be provided, and how the scores will be used.

The Forward Exam measures the knowledge and skills your student(s) should have acquired by the time they reach each grade level. Their performance on the assessment will not affect any of their current grades. Please encourage your son or daughter 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 for placement in classes to best support your student(s).

Lastly, the Forward Exam is a mandatory statewide assessment. It is given to all students in grades 3-8 and 10. It is designed to provide information to parents, schools, and the state, about your child's achievement level in the core academic areas. Results allow us to identify high and low achieving students in order to better accommodate their needs. The test is also used to support curriculum and planning and is a measure of accountability for us as a school.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Principal

Jason Mountin Counselor