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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Recently you should have received your student's Individual Student Report (ISR). The results are from the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) English Language Arts (ELA), Math and Science summative assessments.

The administration of this year's assessment is one of a number of strategies the NDE employs to better understand how students who tested are performing academically. We continue to strive to create a stronger and more equitable education system by identifying regions, schools, and student groups where we most need to accelerate learning opportunities for all students.

NSCAS is unique in that it is administered statewide and can provide information on both growth and performance information for students in grades 3-8 in ELA and Math. Due to the nature of the science test, no growth information is available. The data does provide an important temperature check that allows the state to better track and address student performance. Comparisons without the proper context are likely to be misinterpreted.

Individual student results should also be compared to past results with caution because of lingering effects of learning loss. The NDE encourages the comparison of individual students by family and educators that know individual students the best. Family and educators have the essential understanding of where students are and how to accelerate their future learning.

Any assessment result is limited in its ability to tell the story of learning for an individual student. Schools use these results along with many other types of data to monitor student progress. For more information an [ISR Interpretive Guide for Parents](#) is available online to aid in understanding test results. This guide provides a definition of each achievement level.

If you have additional questions, we encourage you to reach out to your student's teachers and school.

Sincerely,

Trudy K Clark
Director of Statewide Assessment