

November 19, 2018

Dear Parents,

The assessment results received at conferences represent the grade equivalent ranking results on the 2018 nationally normed IOWA assessments that were administered this past October. Per Archdiocesan recommendations, these assessments are administered yearly to all students in grade two through eight. We use the results to point us toward continued school improvement and higher academic achievement for our students.

The staff and I are very proud of the overall achievement on the IOWA assessment and your child's individual results. Notable areas of student achievement this year are Math and Writing!

We are looking at three-year assessment trends. We compared class average grade equivalents in that 2016-17 school year and compared them to the 2018-19 results. Traditionally, an individual student should increase at least one grade level per year. Our class average grade equivalents show progress much above that level. Using the current 8th grade as an example, we found the following:

<u>2016-17 Class Ave. Gr. Equiv.</u>			<u>2018-2019 Class Ave. Gr. Equiv.</u>		
(As 6th graders)			(As 8th graders)		
7.2	Reading	+3 yrs	11.0	Reading	
8.6	Written Expression	+4 yrs	12.8	Written Expression	
8.0	Writing Conventions	+4 yrs	12.3	Writing Conventions	
7.8	Vocabulary	+4 yrs	11.9	Vocabulary	
6.5	Math Total	+5 yrs	11.3	Math Total	
7.9	Social Studies	+4 yrs	11.5	Social Studies	
8.2	Science	+5 yrs	13.0	Science	

The grade level equivalents for all classes grades 2-8 (average score of the entire class, by grade) shown on the back page are a testament to the learning that has taken place. Also noteworthy is the fact, per Archdiocesan recommendations, our schools do not allow calculator use in the math section where on the M-Step they are allowed on one section.

As principal, I credit the knowledge, dedication, and never-ending energy that our staff and parent community present at Immaculate Conception. Please notice the strength in the writing portion of the assessment. Strong reading, writing and comprehensive skills, effect all other core subjects. Visit classrooms, I hear higher level conversations between teachers and students. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Lawrence Ricard