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Stacey Lackner, Director

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Dear Third Grade Parent/Guardian:

As part of the new, district-wide identification process for Vision 21 services, Wayzata Public Schools administers the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Screening Form to all second grade students. Current third grade students were tested last spring. The purpose for administering the CogAT Screening Form is to assist in Vision 21 screening decisions at the elementary level. It is just one of multiple information sources used in the identification process.

CogAT Screening Form

The CogAT Screening Form is a group-administered assessment which measures students' learned reasoning abilities developed through in-school and out-of-school experiences. It is a quick, reliable, and valid way to anchor other measures when deciding if a student should be placed in accelerated coursework. It is a measure of a student's potential to succeed in school-related tasks. It is not a measure of general intelligence or IQ.

The CogAT Screening Form provides a composite score based on one subtest from each of the three CogAT domains, Verbal, Quantitative and Nonverbal reasoning. The CogAT Screening Form includes Verbal/Picture Analogies, Number Analogies, and Figure Matrices.

Accessing CogAT Screening Form Results

You can find your child's CogAT Screening Form results in Skyward Family Access under "Test Results". Results are reported as a three-digit composite Standard Age Score (SAS) and a composite National Age Percentile Rank. These scores are calculated based on the number of items your child answered correctly compared to the number of items answered correctly in a national sample of same-aged students.

Note: In the Vision 21 identification process, CogAT Screening Form SAS scores for all WPS students in the same grade are rank ordered. Given the district's high-performing student population, WPS students' national percentile ranks are generally higher than their local district rank.

Resources

If you have questions about the structure of the CogAT Screening Form and score interpretation, please contact Stacey Lackner, Director of Research and Evaluation, at stacey.lackner@wayzata.k12.mn.us or (763) 745-5065.

For additional information about the CogAT Screening Form, visit the Riverside Publishing website at:

<http://www.riversidepublishing.com/products/cogAT7/screening.html>

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Stacey Lackner, written in a cursive style.

Stacey Lackner, Ph.D.

Director of Research and Evaluation

Wayzata Public Schools