OFFICE OF THE STATE
SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In spring 2026, your child took the Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) in English language arts (ELA)/literacy and mathematics. MSAA is a comprehensive assessment system designed to promote increasing higher academic outcomes for students with significant cognitive disabilities in preparation for a broader array of post-secondary outcomes. MSAA is primarily administered online, with built-in supports to help students respond independently. Depending on students' individual needs, some students interact directly with the computer while others interact with printed materials prepared by the test administrator.

The enclosed guide will walk you through the most important takeaways you can learn from your child's MSAA score report. It also provides you with resources to help your child improve in the coming year. If you have not received your child's score report(s) by November, please contact the school that your child attended in the 2025-26 school year and ask for a copy. Your child's score on the MSAA assessment is broken down to reflect areas in which they are doing well or need more support. Your child's teachers can use this information to provide additional support or more challenging work when needed. You can also use this information to focus learning time at home.

We know that assessment scores do not tell your child's entire academic story. The results are one of several measures – including report card grades, classroom performance and teacher feedback – that together create the full picture of your child's progress in school. Within that picture, annual assessments are designed to help you and your child's teachers better understand the progress your child has made on the state content standards for ELA and math during the past year. Assessments also help us to better understand what resources schools need to support all learners.

Ultimately, our goal is to ensure that all students are prepared to be successful in school and pursue their dreams and aspirations. If you have general questions or want more information about the assessments, please visit our website at osse.dc.gov/service/alternate-assessments or have a discussion with your child's teacher. You can also use the resources on page 4 of this guide to gain a better understanding of the assessment and access sample items.

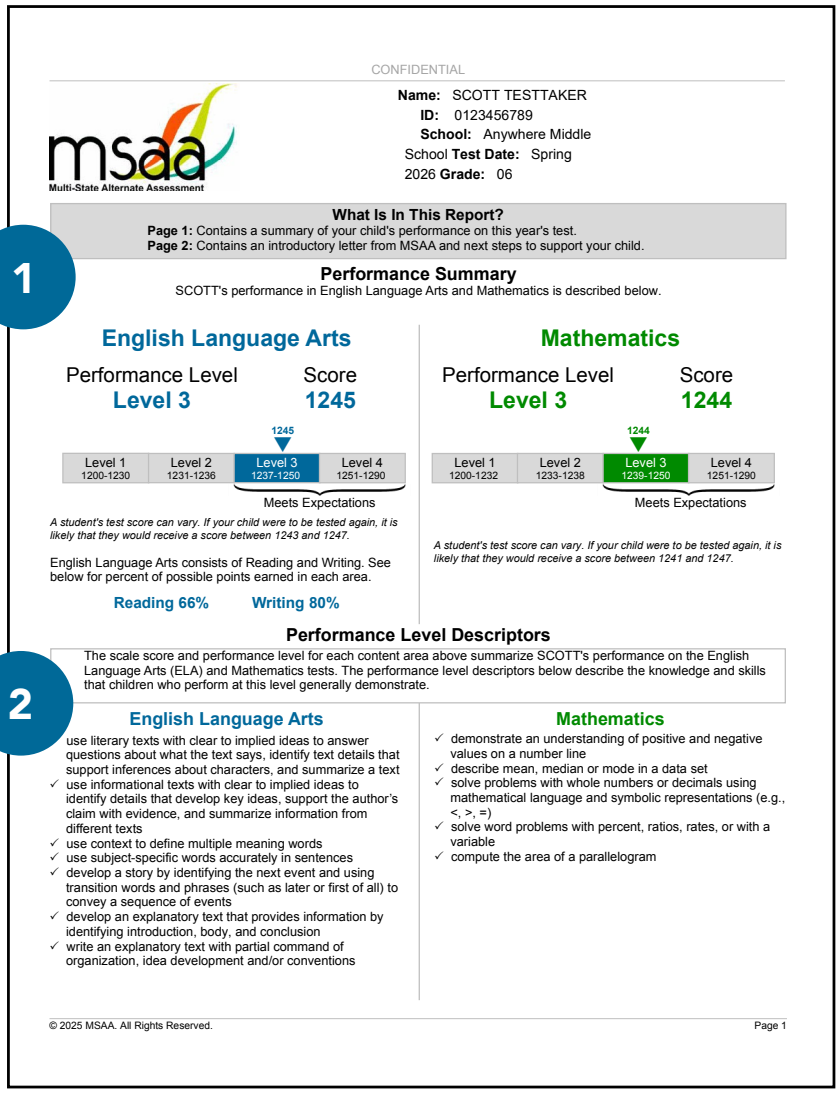
At the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), we believe in the potential of all students, and know that all students can learn and achieve at high levels. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with you to help your child succeed.

Thank you,

Antoinette S. Mitchell, Ph.D.
District of Columbia State Superintendent of Education

BREAKING DOWN THE SCORE REPORT: FRONT

This guide will walk you through the most important takeaways you can learn from your child's score report. It also provides you with helpful resources to help your child improve their performance in the coming year.



CONFIDENTIAL

msaa
Multi-State Alternate Assessment

Name: SCOTT TESTTAKER
ID: 0123456789
School: Anywhere Middle
School **Test Date:** Spring
2026 **Grade:** 06

What Is In This Report?
Page 1: Contains a summary of your child's performance on this year's test.
Page 2: Contains an introductory letter from MSAA and next steps to support your child.

1

Performance Summary
SCOTT's performance in English Language Arts and Mathematics is described below.

English Language Arts

Performance Level: **Level 3** Score: **1245**

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
1200-1230	1231-1236	1237-1250 (1245)	1251-1290

Meets Expectations

A student's test score can vary. If your child were to be tested again, it is likely that they would receive a score between 1243 and 1247.

English Language Arts consists of Reading and Writing. See below for percent of possible points earned in each area.

Reading 66% **Writing 80%**

Mathematics

Performance Level: **Level 3** Score: **1244**

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
1200-1232	1233-1238	1239-1250 (1244)	1251-1290

Meets Expectations

A student's test score can vary. If your child were to be tested again, it is likely that they would receive a score between 1241 and 1247.

Performance Level Descriptors

2

The scale score and performance level for each content area above summarize SCOTT's performance on the English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics tests. The performance level descriptors below describe the knowledge and skills that children who perform at this level generally demonstrate.

English Language Arts

use literary texts with clear to implied ideas to answer questions about what the text says, identify text details that support inferences about characters, and summarize a text
- ✓ use informational texts with clear to implied ideas to identify details that develop key ideas, support the author's claim with evidence, and summarize information from different texts
- ✓ use context to define multiple meaning words
- ✓ use subject-specific words accurately in sentences
- ✓ develop a story by identifying the next event and using transition words and phrases (such as later or first of all) to convey a sequence of events
- ✓ develop an explanatory text that provides information by identifying introduction, body, and conclusion
- ✓ write an explanatory text with partial command of organization, idea development and/or conventions

Mathematics

- ✓ demonstrate an understanding of positive and negative values on a number line
- ✓ describe mean, median or mode in a data set
- ✓ solve problems with whole numbers or decimals using mathematical language and symbolic representations (e.g., <, >, =)
- ✓ solve word problems with percent, ratios, rates, or with a variable
- ✓ compute the area of a parallelogram

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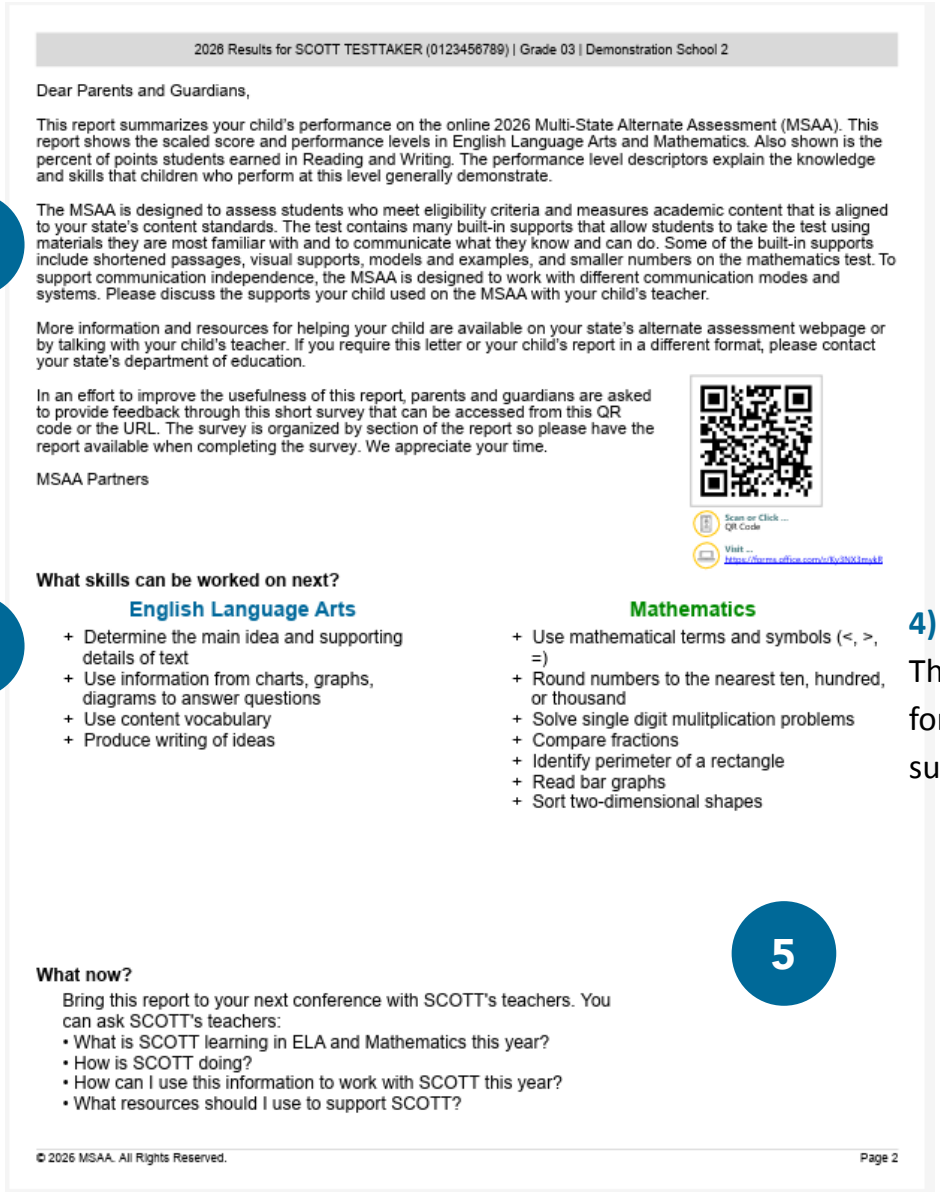
1) Performance Summary Your child's score falls into one of four performance levels. The performance levels identify if your child has met the expectations for the grade level. A score in Level 3 or 4 means your child has met or exceeded expectations in the subject. Students scoring below a Level 3 may still be developing grade-level skills and knowledge.

2) Performance Level Descriptors This section describes the knowledge and skills generally demonstrated by students performing around the same level as your child.

BREAKING DOWN THE SCORE REPORT: BACK

3) Overview of the Assessment This section has background information on the MSAA and how it supports the needs of students who take it.



2026 Results for SCOTT TESTTAKER (0123456789) | Grade 03 | Demonstration School 2

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This report summarizes your child's performance on the online 2026 Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA). This report shows the scaled score and performance levels in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Also shown is the percent of points students earned in Reading and Writing. The performance level descriptors explain the knowledge and skills that children who perform at this level generally demonstrate.

3

The MSAA is designed to assess students who meet eligibility criteria and measures academic content that is aligned to your state's content standards. The test contains many built-in supports that allow students to take the test using materials they are most familiar with and to communicate what they know and can do. Some of the built-in supports include shortened passages, visual supports, models and examples, and smaller numbers on the mathematics test. To support communication independence, the MSAA is designed to work with different communication modes and systems. Please discuss the supports your child used on the MSAA with your child's teacher.

More information and resources for helping your child are available on your state's alternate assessment webpage or by talking with your child's teacher. If you require this letter or your child's report in a different format, please contact your state's department of education.

In an effort to improve the usefulness of this report, parents and guardians are asked to provide feedback through this short survey that can be accessed from this QR code or the URL. The survey is organized by section of the report so please have the report available when completing the survey. We appreciate your time.

MSAA Partners

Scan or Click ... QR Code

Visit ...

What skills can be worked on next?

4

English Language Arts

+ Determine the main idea and supporting details of text
+ Use information from charts, graphs, diagrams to answer questions
+ Use content vocabulary
+ Produce writing of ideas

Mathematics

+ Use mathematical terms and symbols (<, >, =)
+ Round numbers to the nearest ten, hundred, or thousand
+ Solve single digit mulitplication problems
+ Compare fractions
+ Identify perimeter of a rectangle
+ Read bar graphs
+ Sort two-dimensional shapes

5

What now?

Bring this report to your next conference with SCOTT's teachers. You can ask SCOTT's teachers:

- What is SCOTT learning in ELA and Mathematics this year?
- How is SCOTT doing?
- How can I use this information to work with SCOTT this year?
- What resources should I use to support SCOTT?

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4) What skills can be worked on next? This section includes suggested skills for your child to work on next in each subject, based on their performance.

5) What now? The information in the score report is designed to both measure student progress and provide guidance for skill building. This section provides a few questions you can ask your child's teachers about their performance.

RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

Below are several useful resources to help your child grow their performance, as well as useful tips for discussing the scores with your child and with your child's teacher.

Want to learn more about the MSAA?

Visit the following websites for more information on the MSAA:

- msaastates.com for information on the assessment and resources for families and educators.
- msaastates.com/sample-items for sample items and scoring rubrics.

Interested in talking to your child about their score?

Caregivers are the experts on talking to their children. Below are a few helpful things to remember when talking about your child's test score:

- Test scores are only one measure of performance.
- Focus on strengths.
- Discuss strategies for addressing areas of growth (e.g., online practice, working with a teacher).

Interested in talking to your child's teacher about their score?

Below are a few questions that can help guide a conversation with your child's teacher:

- What are my child's learning goals in math this year? In reading?
- How is my child performing in math class? In English language arts?
- What extra support in school and at home does my child need to meet these goals?
- Based on your observations, what does my child do well? What are some areas of growth for my child?