

LEVEL PLACEMENT FOR NEW STUDENTS

Level Placement Guidelines for New Students to the District for Math and Literacy (ELA)

The Reading and Math Scantron Performance Series (PS) assessments will be administered for all new students to the district who are in traditional grades 2 through 10. The table below identifies the ‘lower bound’ of the Performance Series Cut Scores in Quartile 3 aligned with the Westminster Public Schools (WPS) Performance Levels. Preschool and kindergarten students will be placed in the Preschool and Readiness Levels and schools will have the option to administer the Performance Level Assessments to identify proficiency of Learning Targets. High School aged students who test above the Performance Level 09 cut points will be placed in high school courses based on course completion in their previous school.

New students will be initially placed by their Scantron results, but additional teacher assessment/judgment will be taken into account during the **initial 2-week window** before a final determination is made on level placement. *If it is determined that a student was incorrectly placed in a lower level during the initial 2-week window, the level can be adjusted by marking the effected Performance Level with a “P” (Promoted) on the designated date with the following comment “Promotion determined by principal and teacher(s) based on a body of evidence.”*

Note: New students that obtain a Scantron Scale Score that would place them above grade level should be reviewed with caution. It is best to place those potential high performing students at grade level and let them progress through competencies building confidence and learning how to navigate the competency based system. The cut scores are beneficial for placement of those students not currently meeting grade level expectations.

2019-2020 Westminster Public Schools Scantron Performance Series Cut Scores for Performance Level Placement					
Fall Cut Scores Effective 7/1/2019-12/31/2019			Winter Cut Scores Effective 1/1/2020-6/30/2020		
WPS Levels	PS Scale Score Reading	PS Scale Score Math	WPS Levels	PS Scale Score Reading	PS Scale Score Math
02	2010	2041	02	2218	2169
03	2301	2244	03	2440	2330
04	2519	2371	04	2628	2440
05	2678	2475	05	2747	2536
06	2792	2562	06	2854	2609
07	2887	2642	07	2928	2695
08	2948	2703	08	2995	2752
09	2974	2721	09	2998	2759
10	Above 3006 - Placement based on HS course progression	Above 2716 - Placement based on HS course progression	10	Above 3031 - Placement based on HS course progression	Above 2766 - Placement based on HS course progression
<i>Revised: 05/16/2018</i>			<i>Revised: 05/16/2018</i>		

NOTE: Updated based on the 2015-2016 Scantron National Norm Research study. Refer to the [Performance Series Placement Indicator Quartiles](#) document on the Performance Series website. The cut score is based on the lower bound of the 3rd quartile vs the average in the past.

Level Placement of Returning Students After a 6 Month or Longer Leave

Student Performance Level, Learning Target and Evidence scores will be preserved in the Empower system for all students indefinitely. The Active Levels (pink dot) for all content areas will be cleared after a student has been withdrawn for 6 months. Performance Level placement for students returning to the district after a 6 month or longer leave should be completed using the guidance provided in this document.

Level Placement Guidelines used in Empower to Place New Students to the District

New students to the district will be placed in the Performance Levels as described in the table below. Empower will automatically place students where specific levels are designated. All other level placements must be completed at the building level based on records from the receiving district or teacher placement decisions.

Grade	Math	Literacy	Science	Social Studies	Physical Education	Technology	Visual Arts	Performing Arts	World Language		
Preschool	PK	PK	PK	PK	00	PR	00	00	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
Kinder	00	00	00	00	00	PR	00	00	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
1st	Level Placements is completed at the building level based on Scantron Performance Series scores and BOE.	Level Placements is completed at the building level based on Scantron Performance Series scores and BOE.	01	01	01	PR	01	01	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
2nd			02	02	02	PR	02	02	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
3rd			03	03	03	IN	03	03	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
4th			04	04	04	IN	04	04	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
5th			05	05	05	IN	05	05	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
6th			06	06	06	MS	06	<i>Teacher Placement (05)</i>	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
7th			07	07	07	MS	08	<i>Teacher Placement (05)</i>	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
8th			08	08	08	MS	08	<i>Teacher Placement (05)</i>	<i>Teacher Placement</i>		
9th			09	09	<i>Teacher Placement</i>						
10th			<i>Records (09)</i>	<i>Records (09)</i>	<i>Teacher Placement</i>						
11th			<i>Records (09)</i>	<i>Records (09)</i>	<i>Teacher Placement</i>						

Note: Effective for the 2019-2020 School Year

SPED Level Placement: Please access the following guidance document for Special Education students [“SpedPromotionandCBS 11 12”](#) for more specific guidance.

English Learners Assessment and Level Placement Requirements:

1. New students to district who may be identified as an EL student (based on the HLS), should be administered the WIDA Screener prior to Scantron, if necessary, so appropriate Scantron accommodations are included and informed decisions can be made for Level Placement by the CLD Specialist.
2. All CLD Specialists must review a body of evidence during the NEP or LEP student’s first two weeks of attendance for the purposes of (a) making appropriate Level Placement decisions; (b) informing effective instructional practices; and (c) Level Placement decisions must acknowledge what the student already knows in their first language. Level Placement decisions for NEP or LEP students shall not be based on a single Scantron score and extreme caution should be used in placing students’ below grade level. Assessment data or additional information to consider for a body of evidence may come from, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Achievement data from prior school
 - b. Scantron results
 - c. ACCESS scores and growth
 - d. Native language proficiency indicators

- e. Classroom products/results (from current or native country)
- f. Language-free or non-verbal assessments
- g. Classroom Spanish materials
- h. Writing from Write From the Beginning rubrics
- i. DIBELS Next scores and growth
- j. Curriculum-based Assessments and other progress-monitoring tools
- k. Parent interview information

Additional details can be located in the [CLDE Guidebook 2018-19](#).

Level Movement Based on Met/Exceed on 2019 CMAS:

3. The following table will guide Math and Literacy Level Movement of 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th graders based on Met or Exceed 2019 state assessment scores. The ultimate decision on student movement is a building level decision.

Literacy Performance Level Movement Based on 2019 CMAS Results (Met/Exceed)	
2019-2020 Grade Level	Can be moved to:
4 th grade (3 rd grade CMAS results)	Level 04
5 th grade (4 th grade CMAS results)	Level 05
6 th grade (5 th grade CMAS results)	Level 06
7 th grade (6 th grade CMAS results)	Level 07
8 th grade (7 th grade CMAS results)	Level 08
9 th grade (8 th grade CMAS results)	Eng/Lang Arts I

Math Performance Level Movement Based on 2019 CMAS Results (Met/Exceed)	
2019-2020 Grade Level	Can be moved to:
4 th grade (3 rd grade CMAS results)	Level 04
5 th grade (4 th grade CMAS results)	Level 05
6 th grade (5 th grade CMAS results)	Level 06
7 th grade (6 th grade CMAS results)	Level 07
8 th grade (7 th grade CMAS results)	Level 08
9 th grade (8 th grade CMAS results)	Algeo I

Literacy Performance Level Movement Based on 2019 PSAT/SAT Results (Benchmark)	
2019-2020 Grade Level	Can be moved to:
10 th grade (9 rd grade PSAT results)	Level 10
11 th grade (10 th grade PSAT results)	Level 11
12 th grade (11 th grade SAT results)	Level 12

Math Performance Level Movement Based on 2019 PSAT/SAT Results (Benchmark)	
2019-2020 Grade Level	Can be moved to:
10 th grade (9 rd grade PSAT results)	Level 10
11 th grade (10 th grade PSAT results)	Level 11
12 th grade (11 th grade SAT results)	Level 12

When marking the Level Change in Empower please follow these guidelines:

- ✓ The overall level will be scored as **3.0**. Change the **Date for the Content Level** that was previously completed to **May 24, 2019**, add “*Level movement based on CMAS or PSAT/SAT*” for the **Comment**. Students should be counseled that they could continue to work on Learning Targets in the Level to improve the overall score to a 3.5 or 4.0 but 3.0 is the highest score they can receive based on the CMAS assessment score.