

# GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER ACADEMY

"Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

April 19, 2021

Dear GWAC Families,

## Re: GWCA will test students this Spring

Beginning on April 19, we will administer the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) to students in Grades 3-8. In addition, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade will take the PSAT for ELA and mathematics. Like the years before, the M-STEP will be given online to nearly all students and will measure current student knowledge of Michigan's high academic standards in English language arts (ELA), mathematics, science, and social studies.

Recently, there were efforts by the state department of education to waive test for this academic year. However, the United States Department of Education denied the request. Therefore, in-person testing will occur this spring. Please visit [www.gwcarveracademy.org](http://www.gwcarveracademy.org) for testing dates by grade. If you wish to exercise your option to waive participation in the M-STEP, please call the office at 313-865-6024.

Despite the obstacles that the pandemic has posed schools, GWCA feels that it will do everything necessary to keep your students safe. During testing students will:

- be organized into small groups of 12 or less;
- sit in desks that prescribe to social distancing guidelines;
- have access to additional personal protection equipment (PPE); and
- meet an excited teacher waiting to help them.

We want your child's state test experience to be as relaxed and stress-free as possible. Your positive outlook and supportive manner going into these tests also will influence your child's experience. To help your child do well on the test, make sure you do the following:

- Allow for a good night's rest
- Eat a healthy, wholesome breakfast
- Come to school on-time

Remember, testing is a part of learning. State test results do not impact student grades. They are designed to provide information on student knowledge and ability in relation to state grade-level content standards.

The M-STEP web page at [www.michigan.gov/mstep](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep) includes more helpful information for families. There, you will find *Student Testing: What Parents Can Do to Help Prepare; and Michigan's Education Test System: What it is? What it Means? And, What it Offers?*

Sincerely,

  
Christopher Lindsay  
Principal



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Grade	PSAT	MSTEP	MAP
K	X	X	5/24 – 5/28 (in-person)
1	x	x	5/24 – 5/28 (in-person)
2	X	X	5/31 – 6/3 (in-person)
3	x	5/10–5/20 (in-person)	5/31-6/3 (in-person)
4	x	5/24-6/3 (in-person)	4/19-4/22 (remote)
5	x	4/26- 5/20 (in-person)	5/24-5/27 (remote)
6	x	5/10-5/14 (in-person)	4/26 – 4/29 (remote)
7	x	5/24– 6/3 (in-person)	4/19 – 4/22 (remote)
8	5/4-5/5 (in-person)	4/26- 5/6 (in-person)	5/10-5/14 (remote)

