

**Instruction****System-Wide Services****Assessment Program**

The Watertown Unified School District is committed to an assessment program established for the following purposes: improved student achievement, monitoring of student performance, identification of potentially “at-risk” students, comparisons against achievable benchmarks, and accountability to stakeholders and to the larger community.

Student assessments are a primary tool for improving instruction. They communicate to teachers, students, parents, and the community the knowledge and skills students are able to demonstrate in mastering the Wisconsin academic content and performance standards. Assessments also provide ongoing feedback that assists teachers and administrators in adjusting curriculum and instruction to meet the unique needs of each student.

Therefore, the Watertown Unified School District believes it is important to have as much accurate knowledge of each student as is possible through district benchmarks, standardized assessments, multiple classroom assessments, alternate assessments, and nonacademic correlates of standards and assessments (e.g. behaviors (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports - PBIS), work habits and skills). This approach exemplifies a balanced, comprehensive, and instructionally relevant assessment system that values our relationship with all students. Such a system promotes higher achievement levels and prepares students to be life-long learners and contributing members of society.

Standards-led education demands that assessment data be collected, analyzed, and interpreted from a variety of sources. Appropriate assessment reports and pertinent analysis from state and federal testing programs will be presented on a timely basis to the Board of Education, administration, faculty and public and will occur in compliance with reporting guidelines set forth by the State of Wisconsin.

**Policy Approved:                    May 15, 1985**

**Policy Revised:                    March 17, 2005  
    August 25, 2014**