

Semper Elementary Assessment Policy

Philosophy

At Semper Elementary, we believe that assessment is a tool that drives our instruction. Assessments should involve engaging, relevant, and authentic tasks that encourage student reflection on their learning. Assessments should provide a focus that guides students to develop the five essential elements of learning: the understanding of concepts, the acquisition of knowledge, the mastering of skills, the development of attitudes, and the decision to take action. Pre-assessments determine what students already know about the unit of study and prepare students to make connections. Formative assessments are embedded throughout daily instruction and involve the teacher and student collaborating to track and improve his/her learning. Summative assessments are provided at the end of a unit of inquiry through a variety of options to demonstrate learning.

Data Collection Agreements 18-19

Purpose

At Semper we believe in the importance of using multiple formative and summative assessments to determine student need and growth. The assessments we employ are used to guide instructional practice.

- Provide evidence of students' deeper understanding
- Guides instruction and determines next steps
- Evaluates the process as well as the product
- Communicates progress
- Allow students to reflect on their own learning
- Help teachers identify strengths and areas for improvement
- Celebrate student achievements

Implementation

The staff at Semper Elementary values the process of creating and implementing clear success criteria for students to access at all times during a program of inquiry. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Rubrics
- Checklists

- Anchor charts
- Exemplars
- Anecdotal notes
- Reflection journals
- Student conferencing
- Observations
- Running records
- Portfolios
- Projects

Resources

At Semper we implement state, district, and school based assessments.

State and District Assessments:

- CMAS
- MAP
- CogAT (2nd Grade)
- DIBELS
- Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA)
- ACCESS for ELL students
- Teaching Strategies GOLD for Pre-K
- BURST

School Resources/Assessments:

- DRA2
- Words Their Way
- Lucy Calkins Writing Assessments
- Math Expressions unit pre- and post-assessments
- Intervention assessments: Do the Math, I-Ready, Leveled Literacy Intervention (Fountas and Pinnell)