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Jeff Puls
Central Services
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MEMORANDUM

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

At the beginning of this school year your child, along with all students in grades 1-8, will participate in the administration of the *Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests*. Rockwood uses standardized assessments, such as the *Gates-MacGinitie*, to evaluate our educational programs and to monitor the individual instructional needs of each student.

The *Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests* assess the general level of reading achievement of individual students throughout their entire school careers. The testing material is sensitive to the wide range of reading abilities and special interests of students. The *Gates-MacGinitie* is a norm-referenced standardized test. The test was recently normed in 2006. This means that your child's scores will provide a comparison of his or her performance to that of thousands of other children in the same grade who took *Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test* at the same time of year (fall) in 2006.

In late September or early October teachers will receive score information regarding your child's performance on the *Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test*. The results will help show what your child has learned and/or areas for growth in reading. Teachers can use this information to better plan classroom instruction during the remainder of the school year. Your child will also take the *Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test* in the spring of 2012 as a means of assessing their individual growth in reading during the academic year.

As teachers review your child's results later this fall, they will keep in mind that individual results from this assessment are only one measure of student performance, a snapshot in time. Equally important ways to measure student performance include teacher observation, progress reports, daily work, and classroom assessments. All of these factors need to be considered when evaluating a child's academic progress.

Thank you for taking the time to review this information. If you have any questions about your child's results or if you need additional information on your child's academic performance, please contact your child's school.

Sincerely,

Jeff Puls
Coordinator of Testing