

Germantown School District

GERMANTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
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GERMANTOWN, WI 53022-4499
262-253-3900

September 2016

Dear Germantown Families,

According to Wisconsin Statute, districts are required to administer an early literacy screener to all students in kindergarten through second grade for the 2016-17 school year. The Germantown School District selected the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) to meet this legislative requirement. The purpose of this assessment is to provide you with additional information about your child's reading skills. Teachers will be using the information to guide their planning and instruction for all students.

The PALS assessment is administered to most students two times during the school year –once in the fall and once in spring. Students identified with certain below-level benchmark scores may also have the assessment in the middle of the year to ensure growth. The testing window for 1st and 2nd grade students will be September 19 – October 3 and October 3 – October 17 for kindergarten students. All students in grades kindergarten through 2nd grade will be reassessed during the spring window of May 1 – May 15.

Attached is a list of frequently asked questions about the PALS assessment that provides you with additional information. One page is specific to the assessment for kindergarten students, and the reverse side is specific to students in first grade. If you would like additional resources about the assessment, please visit the Department of Public Instruction's website <http://www.palswisconsin.info/>.

There is no need to prepare your child for the PALS assessment. We do encourage you to read to your child and spend time talking about books. The time spent talking about books will help develop your child's early literacy skills.

Sincerely,



Brenda O'Brien
Director of Teaching and Learning