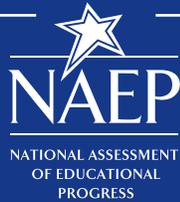


# Measure Up

## FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS

NAEP NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY



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## FALL 2015



### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WORLD OF NAEP FOR PRIVATE SCHOOLS?

#### SPRING/SUMMER 2015

- The NAEP 2015 assessments in mathematics, reading, and science were scored in scoring centers across the country.

#### FALL 2015

- Results of the NAEP 2015 assessments in grades 4 and 8 mathematics and reading will be released.
- NAEP representatives will help private schools selected for NAEP 2016 prepare for the assessment.

#### WINTER 2015-2016

- Paper-and-pencil assessments will be administered to private school students in grade 8 in music and visual arts.
- Pilot assessments on tablets will be administered to private school students in grades 4, 8, and 12 in mathematics, reading, and writing.

### THE NAEP 2016 PROGRAM

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest nationally representative assessment of what our nation's students know and can do in subjects such as mathematics, music, reading, science, visual arts, and writing. The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card. In 2016, NAEP will continue to transition the mathematics, reading, and writing assessments from paper-and-pencil to pilot assessments on tablets. Some schools will take the traditional paper-and-pencil arts assessment, while other schools



For more information about NAEP, visit:  
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.aspx>

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will be asked to take a pilot digitally based assessment on tablets. Results will only be released for the arts assessments. Results from the pilot assessments will provide valuable information to inform future assessments. Each student will take NAEP in one subject only, and NAEP representatives

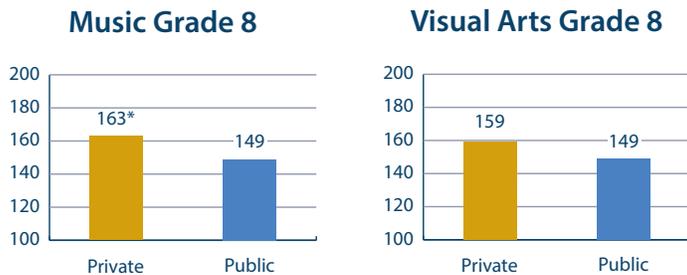
will bring all necessary materials and equipment to schools. Schools will only need to provide space for the assessment, desks or tables, and an adequate number of electrical outlets in the location (if necessary); schools will not need to provide Internet access.

	Paper-and-Pencil Assessments	Pilot Digitally Based Assessments	Pilot Digitally Based Assessments
<b>Subjects</b>	Music and visual arts	Mathematics and reading	Writing
<b>Grades</b>	8	4 and 8	8 and 12

## PRIVATE SCHOOL MUSIC AND VISUAL ARTS RESULTS

In the Spring/Summer edition of *Measure Up for Private Schools*, sample questions and the corresponding results for the 2008 grade 8 music and visual arts assessment were shared. Visit [http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/about/pdf/schools/naep\\_measureup\\_private\\_schools\\_springsummer\\_2015.pdf](http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/subject/about/pdf/schools/naep_measureup_private_schools_springsummer_2015.pdf) to see how students in private schools answered the sample questions.

In 2008, the most recent year in which the arts were assessed, private school students scored higher on average than public school students in music, while in visual arts there was no significant difference.

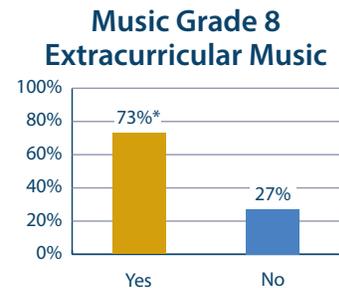


\*Significantly different ( $p < .05$ ) from public schools. NAEP scale scores in music and visual arts range from 0 to 300. SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2008 Music and Visual Arts Assessments.

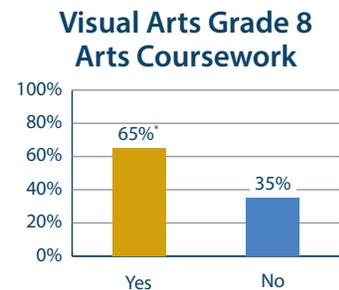
NAEP also collects information that provides context for reporting student performance, such as extracurricular

activities and coursework. Students, teachers, and school administrators provide information on various factors that may influence achievement.

In 2008, 73 percent of private school students attended schools that reported offering school-sponsored extracurricular music clubs, competitions, fairs, or exhibits.



In 2008, 65 percent of private school students reported taking an art class at the time of the assessment or earlier in the school year.



\* Significantly different ( $p < .05$ ) from No.

To learn more about NAEP results for private schools, visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.aspx> and expand the section, "NAEP Results for Private Schools."

# The NAEP Experience

Private school teachers and staff discuss their experiences with NAEP.



**In this section, we interview private school teachers, principals, heads of school, or other school staff who are participating in the upcoming NAEP assessments or experienced NAEP in their private school. Read about Diana Wilmot, the chief academic officer and principal**

**at Yavneh Day School in Los Gatos, California which serves students in kindergarten through eighth grade.**

*How long have you been an educator? Why did you decide to work in a private school? What role do you think private schools play in the education system of the U.S.?*

I've been an educator for 16 years. I chose to work at a private school, after 14 years in the public sector, because I felt that I could make a real impact in a smaller environment in a community that I cared deeply about. I think private schools play an important role in education because they help set the tone of innovation and pilot new educational programs more quickly without the bureaucratic roadblocks of larger institutional organizations.

*Tell us a little about Yavneh Day School.*

Yavneh Day School is committed to academic excellence in general and Jewish studies within a strong, vibrant community where each child is celebrated and challenged. A Yavneh education is about discovering how a child learns in order to maximize each student's potential while fostering curiosity, encouraging risk taking, and ingraining a love of learning. We are a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) school, offering students opportunities to learn design thinking as part of the engineering process, a dedicated innovation lab in middle school, and a full curriculum in social justice.

*Your school has decided to participate in NAEP 2016. What value does NAEP have for your private school's community?*

NAEP is a national organization that helps set the tone for the direction of the country's educational system and policies. It is an honor to be part of NAEP's efforts to advance the field of educational research and to pilot the latest innovations in assessment design that are pushing the testing industry into the 21st century.

*What is most interesting about NAEP to you and your school?*

As we offer an innovative curriculum in design thinking, STEAM, and project-based learning, it is important to note that NAEP is forging forward with assessments that measure this difficult area of learning. Their new assessments with science interactive tasks and scenario-based tasks expect students to solve real-world problems requiring skills in both technology and literacy. It is important for your families to understand that if you value this kind of learning, you have a way to measure it as well.

*What advice would you tell a private school that is making a decision about participating in NAEP?*

Participating in NAEP will give your school credibility in the eyes of your stakeholders and give you a taste of the direction of schools in our country. For our students to be successful, we must continue to be on the cutting edge in education, and participating in NAEP allows us to do just that.

To learn more about private school participation in NAEP, visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.aspx>.

Did your private school participate in NAEP? Would you like to tell us about your experience? Send us an email at [MeasureUpforPrivateSchools@westat.com](mailto:MeasureUpforPrivateSchools@westat.com).

## NAEP Behind the Scenes

Learn more about the people who work behind the scenes to make NAEP the gold standard of assessments.



**In this interview, we talk with Carole Daugherty, a NAEP representative based in California. Carole works with private schools selected for NAEP to answer questions schools may have about participation in the NAEP assessment and ensure that preparation for the**

**assessment is smooth and efficient for the private school coordinators.**

### *Describe your current role as it relates to NAEP.*

I am a gaining cooperation recruiter for private schools. Our team contacts schools sampled by NAEP in the spring and fall each year before the winter assessment. During the assessment period, I am a supervisor overseeing the actual assessment in public and private schools.

### *How long have you worked on NAEP?*

### *What position did you hold prior to joining NAEP?*

I have worked for NAEP for 9 years. Before working for NAEP, I taught high school history in Catholic schools for 45 years.

### *What in your past training and experience best prepared for you for current job?*

Having taught for many years, I am familiar with the schedule of schools and their testing programs. I have administered many tests, know how busy principals are, and understand that NAEP adds another task to the school coordinator's already daunting responsibilities. Therefore, I always offer to assist a school as much as possible if they want my help. Being an educator all of my life, I love going into a school and being with the students.

### *What is the most satisfying part of your job?*

### *What is the most challenging?*

The most satisfying part of my job is getting a private school to participate in the NAEP assessment. I enjoy researching the philosophy and mission statements of a school before I contact it and refer to this information when speaking to the decisionmaker for the first time. I have learned so much from the decisionmakers at a variety of private schools.

A challenge is to convince a school of the importance of a national assessment. I try to point out how the NAEP data are used by educators and how their students are contributing to improving education in the future.

### *What is the value of NAEP for private schools? Why should they participate?*

A question that I am frequently asked by principals of private schools I contact is "Why was our school chosen to participate?" When I explain to them that they were sampled by NAEP because their school characteristics represent many other schools similar to them across the country, most feel honored to participate.

By including private schools in the NAEP sample – each of which makes a special contribution to the overall state of education in America – and because of their special characteristics, we can compare private school student performance to that of public school students and get a more complete picture of how various student populations are progressing.

Many private schools are encouraged to participate in the assessment by the leadership of the private school organization to which the school belongs. These organizations realize the value associated with participating in a national assessment that throughout the years has provided data that reflect the positive performance of private school students. In addition, private schools also realize that they can use their NAEP participation as a marketing tool to enroll prospective students.

For more information on private school participation in NAEP visit:  
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