January 29, 2024

Dear Families:

This past fall, The Browning School administered the CTP, a standardized achievement and reasoning test by Educational Records Bureau (ERB) to students in Grades 3-8. This test, comprised of multiple choice questions, is designed specifically for each grade level primarily assessing math, reading, and writing skills.

Our CTP testing allows us to obtain a profile of each student's skills over a number of years and allows students to practice standardized test taking. Furthermore, ERB testing allows us to assess internally how well our programs are performing. ERB scores provide comparison scores from public, suburban, and independent schools across the nation.

It is important to note that the CTP provides one piece of information about your son at one moment in time. Many qualities comprise a successful learner such as motivation, grit, organizational and study skills, along with social and leadership abilities. At Browning, we always consider ERB scores in conjunction with classroom performance on tests, homework, projects, and teacher observations over time.

Please access <u>Veracross</u> to obtain your child's most recent ERB scores (October 2023). The title is labeled ERB REPORT in the Reports section of Veracross (where you access Report Cards). See the image below for the specific location.

The following information will be beneficial in understanding the content of each subtest and interpreting the scores.

Test Categories:

Verbal Reasoning: analysis of information, drawing inferences, recognizing analogical relationships, and generalizing verbal categories

Vocabulary: conceptualizing relationships between words (analogies, antonyms, and synonyms) and concepts and drawing conclusions

Reading Comprehension: understanding of written material including recall, identification of main ideas and hypotheses from texts

Writing Mechanics: spelling, capitalization, punctuation and usage of language

Writing Concepts and Skills: assessing knowledge of effective writing through understanding of processes and components of written language

Quantitative Reasoning: application of mathematical concepts and principles

Mathematics: assessing conceptual understanding, procedural knowledge and problem solving.

Score presentation:

- Percentiles: percentage of students in the norm population whose scores fall at or below a student's given scores. 79% means that the student scores higher than 79% of that population.
- Stanines: units on interval scales that show patterns of change based on numbers 1 through 9. A score of 5 represents the average of that population, with 9 being the high end of the scale.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding CTP scores.

Thank you,

Caitlin Pidcock LS/MS Learning Specialist cpidcock@browning.edu

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