



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) Assessment Chosen by McDowell County Schools to Guide Daily Instruction**

North Carolina district seeks to inspire success through student-centered learning practices

Marion, NC – October 13, 2015 – Northwest Evaluation Association™ (NWEA™) announced today that its Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) assessment has been selected by McDowell County Schools to be their universal screener and to drive instruction for approximately 5,000 students in kindergarten through grade 9.

MAP is an interim adaptive assessment that provides immediate feedback to teachers about where students are ready to advance, or where they may need additional help. It is well-aligned to McDowell County's districtwide effort to "stress the importance of students by making data-driven decisions."

McDowell County sits at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina. The district has been consistently recognized for its excellence in education, and many of its schools have been named North Carolina Schools of Excellence and Schools of Distinction.

"Our district continues to pursue ways to push beyond boundaries and implementing MAP will be another means to reach our goals," noted Curriculum & Instruction Specialist Brooke Mabry. "It will be an empowering tool for our educators to use in their classrooms and will be very informative in creating learning plans for each student."

"We are delighted to partner with McDowell County Schools. Their mission-driven district is staged to continue making some great gains when it comes to measuring and accelerating student growth," said Matt Chapman, CEO of NWEA.

### **About Northwest Evaluation Association**

Founded by educators nearly 40 years ago, [Northwest Evaluation Association](http://nwea.org)™ (NWEA™) is a global not-for-profit educational services organization known for our suite of assessments, including our flagship interim assessment, [Measures of Academic Progress](http://nwea.org)® (MAP®), and [Skills Navigator](http://nwea.org)®, a skills mastery and progress monitoring tool. More than 7,600 partners in U.S. schools, school districts, education agencies, and international schools trust us to offer pre-kindergarten through grade 12 assessments that accurately measure student growth and mastery, professional development that fosters educators' ability to accelerate student learning, and research that supports assessment validity and data interpretation. To better inform instruction and maximize every learner's academic growth, educators currently use NWEA assessments with nearly eight million students. Learn more at [nwea.org](http://nwea.org).