

# Randolph Southern

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**SCHOOL CORPORATION STRIVES FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

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September 5, 2019

Dear Randolph Southern Parents and Patrons,

The Indiana Department of Education released scores from the standardized test called ILEARN administered to all students in Indiana in the spring of 2019. ILEARN is associated with the newly aligned college and career readiness, national normative data, and defined established performance cut scores. The state average of students passing English/Language Arts and Math in 2019 is significantly lower than the 2018 ISTEP test results:

**Statewide Test Results Grades 3-8**

| <u>2019 ILEARN</u> | <u>2018 ISTEP</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| English = 47.9     | English = 58.9    |
| Math = 47.8        | Math = 64.6       |

**Randolph Southern Test Results Grades 3-8**

| <u>2019 ILEARN</u> | <u>2018 ISTEP</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| English = 47.9     | English = 61.2%   |
| Math = 48.9        | Math = 53.9       |

ILEARN measures student achievement and growth. Unfortunately, the released scores do not include growth, which plays a vital role in teacher lesson planning and curriculum development. Randolph Southern School Corporation administers Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) testing in the fall, winter, and spring. NWEA provides a deeper dive into data and allows teachers to target specific areas of weakness. These NWEA scores guide our daily instruction throughout the school year.

ILEARN is one test much like ISTEP. The state continues to spend millions of dollars on an assessment that does not provide real time data for teachers to utilize in the classroom. The high stakes test continues to count toward a school letter grade and continues to be a part of the final teacher evaluation score. The exam does not show that Randolph Southern has a 95.7% graduation rate. It does not show that our high school offers seven AP/ACP classes to students for obtaining college credit. The exam does not show that our elementary is a STEM school. It does not show that RSE finished fourth in the state in the Spell Bowl for the green division and won the regional in Math Bowl for the green division. The exam is a snapshot in time and does not show the many great things going on in our school every day.

Yours in Education,



Mr. Donnie Bowsman, Ed.S  
Superintendent

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