Education Records Burearu's CTP standardized test (ERB's)

Each year, Swain students in grades 4 - 8 participate in the ERB (Educational Records Bureau) standardized testing program called the CTP. The purpose of this test is to provide students the opportunity to take a standardized test, deliver feedback on our curriculum and instruction, and finally to establish a baseline for our students. This test does not count towards any report card grades, but rather gives us another piece of information to help review our program and students.

There are seven sub tests of the CTP that we administer each year. The Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning Tests assess your child's ability. These tests do not test content knowledge or what they have learned in school, rather it tests their aptitude. The Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Writing Mechanics, Writing Concepts & Skills, and Mathematics 1 & 2 tests are more traditional content based tests that measure what your child has learned. It is important to note that Swain does not teach to the test and therefore there are some topics that covered on the ERB test that we do not teach as well as topics that we teach that are not on the test.

Scores are sent home for each child and allow you to compare your child to national, local and independent school norms. Because these tests are only administered once a year, they are merely a snapshot of your child and should not cause alarm or fear. As always, we are happy to meet to review your child's scores and help you to interpret them.

Swain administers the CTP tests during the "fall testing period" that ranges from September through February, this test actually assesses the grade level below since it is a fall administration. For example, if you child is in 5th grade, they will take the Grade 4 test.

You will receive information specific to your child's grade, before the test each year.

There is much more information on the ERB website. Please click here to learn more about the CTP 5 (Comprehensive Testing Program) version of the test.