



Parsippany-Troy Hills Township Schools

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Dear Families,

I am writing to let you know about the standardized testing dates for our elementary, middle, and high school students. Public schools in New Jersey administer the NJSLA (formerly PARCC) assessment in English language arts/literacy and mathematics. The testing dates for our students are listed below:

GRADE	DATES
3	Monday, April 8, 2019 – Friday, April 12, 2019
4	Monday, May 13, 2019 – Friday, May 17, 2019
5	Monday, May 13, 2019 – Friday, May 17, 2019
CMS	Tuesday, April 23, 2019 – Tuesday, April 30, 2019*
BMS	Thursday, May 2, 2019 – Wednesday, May 8, 2019
PHS and PHHS	Tuesday, April 23, 2019 – Wednesday, April 30, 2019*
*There will be no testing on Thursday, April 25, 2019.	

In order to properly ensure that our network is ready and that our staff and students are familiar with the procedures necessary to implement NJSLA assessments, every school in our district will once again conduct an **Infrastructure Trial** according to the following schedule:

Tuesday, March 5, 2019	Thursday, March 7, 2019
High Schools, Grades 9 – 11	
Central Middle School, Grades 6 – 8	Brooklawn Middle School, Grades 6 – 8
Elementary Schools, Grade 3	Elementary Schools, Grades 4 – 5

The Infrastructure Trial will be conducted on a regular day of school and will take approximately one hour to complete. We anticipate that the Infrastructure Trial will confirm that our district’s technology readiness (wireless accessibility, network capabilities, device preparedness) is in place for a successful administration of NJSLA assessments.

NJSLA assessments are administered to all students in grades 3-11 in language arts and mathematics. At the high school level, mathematics includes only Algebra 1 and Geometry; middle school students taking Algebra 1 or Geometry will take these respective assessments in lieu of the regular 7th or 8th grade mathematics assessment. Please note that grades 5, 8, and 11 are also scheduled to take the NJSLA science assessment, which will be a two-day test in May--Monday and Tuesday, May 20 & 21, 2019 for grades 5 and 11; Thursday and Friday, May 9 & 10, 2019 for grade 8. Should there be new information from the NJ Department of Education regarding these assessments, we will certainly communicate this with you.

Some portions of the NJSLA assessment require students to listen to audio. Although we will provide any student in grades 3-11 with headphones, please send your child to school with his or her own headphones, if possible, as students’ own headphones will be more comfortable for them. In addition, children are permitted to bring an independent reading book to read at the completion of testing. High school students must bring their devices to school fully charged on testing days.

Our Parsippany-Troy Hills teachers prepare students for NJSLA assessments in several ways. Our curriculum is aligned with NJ Student Learning Standards and our students are regularly presented with skills and knowledge essential for performing well on these tests. We believe that a strong curriculum, rather than isolated test prep, is the best way to prepare students for all kinds of assessments.

These two websites offer practice tests for each grade level of the assessment should you wish to familiarize yourself with the kinds of items and format used for the NJSLA assessment. <https://nj.mypearsonsupport.com/practice-tests/>

For more information about the district’s administration of NJSLA testing, please visit our Standardized Testing Page located on our district website, www.pthsd.k12.nj.us. As always, please feel free to contact your child’s principal with any additional questions.

Sincerely,


Barbara Sargent, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools