



## Highland Park Elementary School

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Phone: (406) 535-2555 Fax: (406) 535-2556 [www.lewistown.k12.mt.us/2/home](http://www.lewistown.k12.mt.us/2/home)

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February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Many Highland Park Elementary School fourth graders were selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on February 21, 2017. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessment because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

The assessment takes about 90 to 120 minutes for most students which includes transition time and instructions. Your child has been selected for the assessment and will take either a mathematics or reading assessment. Students are only tested in one subject consisting of two core content sections.

The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347).

The information collected is used for statistical purposes only.

- Your child's grades will not be affected.
- Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question.
- Students with Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) or Section 504 Plans will be given accommodations.
- While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by February 20, 2016

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. An FAQ about the test is attached. A brochure that explains in more detail what participation in NAEP means for you and your child is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>.

Should you have questions, or if you would like a copy of the brochure, please contact either myself at Highland Park Elementary, or Scott Dubbs at 535-8777 ([sdubbs@lewistown.k12.mt.us](mailto:sdubbs@lewistown.k12.mt.us)).

We are excited that our school is participating in NAEP. We know that Highland Park students will show what our nation's students know and can do.

Sincerely,

Matthew Ventresca, Principal

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*"EXCELLENCE TODAY, SUCCESS TOMORROW"*