



ANDOVER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent

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March 14, 2022

Dear ARSD Parents and Guardians,

Andover Regional School District will administer the state testing program, known as the New Jersey Student Learning Standards Assessment (NJSLA) to all students in grades 3 through 8 during the month of May. Our schedule will be as follows:

FMB:

May 2, 2022-May 5, 2022 Grades 3 & 4

Testing will be administered in the morning hours.

Please note that this date is a week earlier than originally sent to parents in the September 10, 2021 testing notification letter. The week needed to be altered to accommodate student and staffing needs.

LPS:

May 16, 2022-May 20, 2022 Grades 5-8

Testing will be administered in the morning hours.

Make up testing will occur during the week of May 9 for FMB and during the week of May 23 for LPS.

Our Board of Education, administration, and staff place a high value on the NJSLA assessments as they are based on the same learning standards that are the basis for our academic curricula. Our administration and staff utilize the NJSLA test results as a tool to analyze the effectiveness of our curricula, teaching methods, and student learning. When all of our students participate in the NJSLA assessment, individual and grade-level student growth can be accurately analyzed using a sample size that contains all students. It is important to note that NJSLA performance is one of the components of the 8th Grade Presidential Awards and has historically been utilized in the admissions rubric at Sussex County Technical School. In addition to the value outlined above, students who participate in NJSLA testing in grades 3 through 8 will gain the experience they need when sitting for high stakes testing.

Student participation in NJSLA testing is a whole community effort. When parents support their children in this effort, the children demonstrate their knowledge they have acquired through our standards-based curricula. Teachers and administrators then take the results of these assessments and utilize them to improve curricula, teaching, and learning for all students. Our Andover community has historically been very supportive of our district in ensuring that students sit for testing to provide us with the valuable information it provides both staff and families. However, it is important to note that participation in the NJSLA assessment is not optional. As NJSLA is the educational activity for the given days students in grades 3 through 8 are tested, alternate

instruction will not be offered to those students who refuse to participate in this state-mandated testing.

We ask for your assistance in getting your children to school on time, well rested and having eaten a nutritious breakfast. We are unable to allow students to enter the testing rooms once testing has begun. Failure to report to school on time will result in scheduling your child for make up testing. In addition, if you need to schedule appointments (e.g. doctor/dentist) for your child, we kindly ask you to try to do so around the testing schedule.

Please note, parent information regarding the ELA and Math tests and sample tests can be found [here](#). Parent information regarding Science tests and sample tests can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions regarding ARSD's participation in the state testing program, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Thank you for your continued support of our students and school district.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clifford Burns". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Clifford Burns
Superintendent of Schools