



HOME of the BUCCANEERS

February 2024

Dear Families,

Each spring, all students participate in standardized end of year state assessments that provide you and your child's teachers with information about how your child is progressing academically. This helps educators know how to best support your child to ensure your child is ready for the next grade level and, ultimately, success in life. The tests are one of several indicators in combination with report cards, teacher feedback and classroom work, that create a complete picture of a student's progress in school.

High School students in Delaware are required to complete the PSAT 10 in 10th grade and SAT during the school day in 11th grade. Students in grades 3 to 8 take the Smarter Balanced Assessment in English language arts and mathematics. These online, adaptive tests are designed so that students can demonstrate what they know and can do, including those who are learning English or have special needs. Family reports are mailed home statewide over the summer.

There are also requirements for annual end of year science and social studies testing. In science, students in grades 5, 8 and 10 take the DeSSA Next Generation Science Assessment. This assessment asks students to demonstrate their progress toward mastery of the Next Generation Science Standards, or NGSS. DeSSA Social Studies is the state's student testing program for social studies for grades 4, 6, 8 & 11. This is aligned to Delaware's Social Studies Standards and the Delaware State Standards for Literacy in History/ Social Studies.

Each year, students in English learner programs take the ACCESS for ELLs language proficiency test. The test measures academic English language proficiency for students learning English in our school and throughout our state.

All assessments are computer-based and are taken in-person at school. As with all statewide assessments, teachers will use end of year assessment scores as one of many measures to determine your child's progress. The scores will be included with multiple measures to identify strengths and weaknesses in your child's learning pattern to identify ongoing strategies to best meet the needs of your child. For parent resources about these assessments, please visit <https://education.delaware.gov/educators/academic-support/standards-and-instruction/digital-de/assessment/> or our district page milfordschooldistrict.org under "Assessment and Accountability".

On December 10, 2015, the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015* (ESSA) was signed into law. Section 1112(e)(2) of ESSA states that parents and families of students in Title I schools have a right to know about state or district policies regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by ESSA, including any policy, procedure, or parental right to opt students out of such assessments. If you would like to receive information about this topic, please contact your child's principal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bobbie Kilgore, NBCT
Supervisor of Instruction

ADMINISTRATION

Bridget R. Amory, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Kelly Carvajal Hageman, Ed.D.
Chief Academic Officer

Sara E. Hale, DBA
Chief Operating Officer

Laura L. Manges, M.Ed
Director of Human Resources

Jennifer Hallman, M.Ed.
Director of Student Services

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Scott L. Fitzgerald
President

Matt Bucher
Vice President

Adam S. Brownstein

Ashlee N. Connell

Victor C. Elzey

Jennifer L. Massotti

Jean A. Wylie

Mailing Address

906 Lakeview Avenue
Milford, DE 19963

Telephone

(302) 422-1600

Fax

(302) 422-1608

Website

www.milfordschooldistrict.org

The Milford School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in employment or in educational programs, services, or activities on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, gender (including pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions), national origin, citizenship or ancestry age, disability, marital status, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, or upon any other categories protected by federal, state, or local law. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Director of Personnel, 906 Lakeview Avenue, Milford, DE 19963, telephone 302-422-1600.