

HARRISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
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January 13, 2016

Dear Parents / Guardians:

Across the State of New Jersey, students in 3rd through 6th grade will take the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment for English Language Arts and Mathematics. In addition, students in 4th grade will take the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge Science assessment on May 25, 2016.

What is PARCC? The PARCC assessment is a computer-based assessment of Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy skills that measures whether students are on track to be successful in college and careers and if the students are meeting the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS). Sample tests and released items are available on the PARCC website:

- Sample Tests – <http://parcc.pearson.com/sample-items/>
- Released Test Items – <https://prc.parcconline.org/assessments/parcc-released-items>

Do I have the option for my child to opt-out of the PARCC assessment? No. Harrison Township is obligated by state regulations to administer the NJ ASK and PARCC exam to all students. The district's attendance policies and regulations will continue to be followed during this time.

When will PARCC be administered? The PARCC assessment has been condensed to one testing window for the 2015-2016 school year. The assessment will include open-ended, short-answer, and multiple choice assessment items. The Harrison Township School District will administer the PARCC as follows:

| May 2 | May 3 | May 4 | May 5 | May 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ELA Unit 1 Grade 3-6 (90 min) | ELA Unit 2 Grade 3 (75 min) Grade 4-5 (90 min) Grade 6 (110 min) | ELA Unit 3 Grade 3-5 (90 min) Grade 6 (110 min) | Math Unit 1 Grade 3-5 (60 min) Grade 6 (80 min) | Math Unit 2 Grade 3-5 (60 min) Grade 6 (80 min) |
| May 9 | May 10 | May 11 | | NJ ASK SCIENCE GRADE 4 MAY 25, 2016 |
| Math Unit 3 Grade 3-5 (60 min) Grade 6 (80 min) | Math Unit 4 Grade 3-5 (60 min) Grade 6 (NA) | Make-ups | | |

How can parents learn more? The district website includes a great deal of information and useful links. If you have any further questions about the New Jersey state assessments, you may contact Dr. Davis in the Curriculum Office at 478-2016 extension 7169 or via e-mail davisa@harrisonschools.k12.nj.us.

Sincerely,



Andrew P. Davis, Ed.D.
Director of Curriculum & Instruction