

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
120 N. MAIN STREET
MULLICA HILL, NJ 08062**

Dr. Edward Wasilewski
Superintendent

Andrew P. Davis
Director of Curriculum

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Supervisor of Student Services

January 23, 2015

Dear Parents / Guardians:

Across the State of New Jersey, students in 3rd grade will take the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment for ELA and Mathematics. The PARCC assessments for ELA and math will replace the NJ ASK assessments.

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 Common Core and the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Will PARCC data be used for academic placement for the 2015-16 school year? No. Harrison Township will use in-house measures (e.g. MAP, DIBELS, Reading Street, Math Expressions, I&RS, RtI, report card information, teacher notes) to appropriately place students.

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 is composed of 2 parts, the Performance-Based Assessment (PBA), which includes open-ended and short-answer assessment items, and the End-of-Year assessment (EOY), composed of short-answer and multiple choice items.

PBA Testing Window	March 2 nd through March 27 th
EOY Testing Window	April 27 th through May 22 nd

***A detailed list of individual homeroom testing times will tentatively
be sent home and made available on the website on January 28th.***

How can parents learn more? The PTA is hosting a parent training on February 2nd. Mr. Davis will be sharing Harrison Township's proactive approach to the Common Core, PARCC testing time lines, changes in the assessment, and participants will partake in a LIVE practice assessment. Some of this information is already available on the district web-site.

If you have any further questions about the New Jersey state assessments, you may contact Mr. Davis in the Curriculum Office at 478-2016 ext 7169 or via e-mail davisa@harrisontwp.k12.nj.us.

Sincerely,



Dr. Edward Wasilewski
Interim Superintendent



Andrew P. Davis
Director of Curriculum & Instruction



Patrice Taylor
Principal, HTS