

March 18, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Students in New Jersey public schools will be participating in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments again this year. The New Jersey Department of Education requires student participation in this state-required assessment.

There is no “opt out” protocol by which parents can elect to have their child(ren) exempt from taking the test. If parents refuse to allow their child to take the PARCC assessment, they must submit a signed written letter to me by **April 6, 2018**. I need an original signature on the letter so E-mail will not suffice. This notice of refusal to participate must be submitted no later than ten (10) business days before the testing window begins. We will be administering the assessment to third through fifth grade students the week of April 16th. Administration will begin promptly at 9:00 each morning. We will not be able to allow entry into the classroom once testing has begun so it is imperative that children arrive to school on time.

Students who do not take the PARCC assessment will be supervised; however, there will be no delivery of alternate instruction or curriculum. Please be aware that once a test refusal is recorded within the NJSMART system, it cannot be reversed.

This year, the **fifth grade** students will be administered the new field test in Science on May 15th and 16th. Since this is a field test, the state will use the data to determine the efficacy of the assessment, consequently the results will not be provided to schools or parents. This assessment will be given in two- thirty minute sessions each day.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Linda Weber, Ed. D.

Linda Weber, Ed. D.
Principal