



March 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This spring, all students enrolled in New Jersey public schools will again be participating in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for Colleges and Careers (PARCC) Assessment. The Wyckoff Board of Education requires all students to participate in statewide proficiency assessments. PARCC is designed to assess the curriculum content and skills that our students experience every day in our classrooms. The results of the test can provide you with important information about your child's progress and attainment of State Standards, and also provide the District with important aggregated objective data to help us assess our programs and the delivery of instruction.

The assessment can also provide your child with valuable experience in taking online assessments in the future. As you may know, in the near future, assessments such as the SAT will be given in an online format.

There is no "opt-out" protocol by which parents can elect to have their children exempt from taking the test. If a parent decides to grant permission to his/her child to refuse participation in the assessment, the **parent is required to notify the school by submitting a signed, written letter at least five days prior to the administration of the grade level test. Emails will not be accepted.** The student's test will be submitted to the State as a "void", with "refusal to test" as the reason for the testing irregularity. Once a test is voided, no make-up test is allowed.

Students whose parents have refused for them to participate in the PARCC will remain in the classroom and be allowed to read a book, but will not receive any type of alternative instruction during the testing period. The student will not be permitted to use any technological device, including, but not limited to a laptop, cell phone, iPad, iPod, etc. All testing protocols relative to silence during the test administration and breaks, as well as other rules detailed by the PARCC Coordinator and Test Administrator, will apply to all students in the room. All efforts will be made to ensure an uninterrupted testing environment. Any student violating the established testing parameters will be subject to discipline. A student who refuses to test during the PARCC administration and does not have written consent from a parent will face disciplinary action.

The testing schedule in Wyckoff provides windows within which the testing will occur. These are as follows:

Grade 3	April 27 – May 5, 2017
Grade 4	April 26 – May 4, 2017
Grade 5	April 25 – May 3, 2017
Grade 6 & 7	April 27 – May 3, 2017
Grade 8	April 19 – 25, 2017

Additional details of this year's PARCC test can be found on the district website: <http://www.wyckoffps.org/Page/4860>.

On the day of the test, the students should bring the following as requested:

- Headphones that can be used with the student-assigned Chromebook. These headphones should be wired and plugged into the headphone port on the laptop (not wireless/bluetooth).
- Charged Chromebook and power cord (elementary schools will provide)
- Pencils
- Recreational reading material (for use during the remaining time after completing the PARCC assessment)

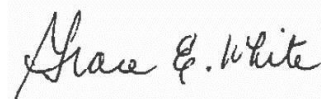
Please be advised that there are specific State guidelines that all school districts must adhere to during PARCC testing. First and foremost, students will not be admitted to the testing classroom after the late bell. Please do not schedule doctor or dentist appointments during the testing days, as we are not permitted to interrupt testing for late arrivals or early dismissals. In addition, students are forbidden to have cell phones in their possession in the classroom during test days. Any student found to have a cell phone will have his or her test voided for that test section.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact your child's principal.

Sincerely,



Richard D. Kuder, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Grace E. White
Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction