



West Orange Public Schools
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West Orange, New Jersey 07052
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Acting Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Eveny de Mendez

March 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The State of New Jersey has ended its membership of the interstate consortium that produced the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) assessments. While the online platform (Pearson's TestNav) will remain the same, the state's English Language Arts and Mathematics assessments will now be called the *New Jersey Student Learning Assessments for English Language Arts and Mathematics* (NJSLA-ELA and NJSLA-M), in grades 3 – 10. Additionally, students in Grades 5, 8 and 11 will participate in the computer-based *New Jersey Student Learning Assessment – Science* (NJSLA-S) which replaced the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) and the New Jersey Biology Competency Test (NJBCT). For specific testing dates relative to the West Orange Public Schools, please refer to the attached *NJSLA Testing Schedule*. This information as well as other testing dates, can be accessed on the district website at www.woboe.org under *Assessment Calendar*.

The *New Jersey Student Learning Assessments* (NJSLA) are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), which focus on critical thinking skills and students' ability to read, write, speak, listen, and solve problems independently. The West Orange Public Schools are committed to preparing our students with focused classroom instruction that make our courses of study more rigorous and aligned to the expectations of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. Our mission continues to focus on preparing your child for college and career. Additionally, students will participate in online NJSLA practice, and our staff will review testing procedures in advance so students feel prepared and understand what to expect on testing days.

Students will take the NJSLA on a computer, using the same online platform and tools they may be familiar with from PARCC testing. ***Additionally, components of the NJSLA tests may include audio clips. Therefore, students are permitted, and encouraged, to bring their own ear buds/headphones. (Please note: Bluetooth ear-devices are not permitted by the New Jersey Department of Education, and will not function with the online secure testing platform).*** A supplemental supply of headphones is available in each school building for testing sessions. If your child wears a device such as glasses, hearing aids, etc., it is imperative students bring these items to school to be used during all testing sessions.

As part of the school community, parents/guardians play an important role in preparing your child for this experience. Please be sure your child reports to school on time each day of testing. Should your child be ill and miss a scheduled testing day, make-up testing days will be available. Parents are encouraged to become familiar with the types of items and format used on the NJSLA assessments. Practice tests for each grade level are available to review on the following websites:

- NJSLA Practice tests, tutorials, testing information & documents: <https://nj.mypearsonsupport.com>
- NJDOE Department of Assessments: <https://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/>
- Graduation requirements for Class of 2019, 2020: <https://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/parents/>

Administration of the NJSLA-ELA, NJSLA-M, and NJSLA-S is required by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). While the NJDOE has not legislated an opt-out program, we recognize a parent’s right to make such decisions on behalf of his/her child. The procedure for choosing this option for your child is as follows:

- Elementary & Middle School Students: Send a signed letter to the school principal by March 29, 2019. The letter must be in a sealed envelope and include the name of the child, daytime phone number, and signed by the parent/guardian. Emails will not be accepted.
- WOHS Students: Send a signed letter to the student’s school counselor during lunch or after school by March 29, 2019. The letter must be in a sealed envelope and include the name of the child, daytime phone number, and signed by the parent/guardian. Emails will not be accepted.

Please contact your child’s principal with any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Eveny de Mendez
 Superintendent of Schools

Spring 2019 NJSLA Testing Schedule for West Orange Public Schools

Please note that the NJSLA assessments are required by the Federal and State Departments of Education.

NJSLA Tests	Grade Levels	Dates
ELA 9, ELA 10	9-10	April 8-10
Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry	9-10	April 23-24
ELA 3	3	April 23, 24, 26
Math 3	3	April 30-May 2
ELA 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4-8	May 7-9
Math 6, 7, 8	6-8	May 14-15
Algebra 1, Algebra 2	7-8	May 14-15
Math 4, 5	4-5	May 14-16
Science	11	May 22-23
Science	5 & 8	May 29-30