

AUTEN ROAD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Achieving Excellence Together!

April 10, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Beginning the first week of May, Auten Road Intermediate School will be administering the State of New Jersey standardized assessment for fifth and sixth grade. New Jersey is a member of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and has adopted the PARCC assessments as its statewide standardized assessment tool. The PARCC assessments are computer based and aligned to the New Jersey and Common Core State Standards. ARIS students will take the PARCC assessments in English-Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics.

New for 2018, students enrolled in grade 5 will also be administered The New Jersey Student Learning Assessment for Science (NJSLA-S). The NJSLA-S measures student proficiency with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science. The science standards require assessment tasks that examine students' performance of scientific and engineering practices in the context of crosscutting concepts and disciplinary core ideas. The three-dimensional nature of the standards requires more complex assessment items and tasks. The NJSLA are only one component of a system of assessments that provide evidence about student learning. The data collected from the NJSLA-S, students' interactions with teachers on a daily basis, and their subsequent performance on teacher and district developed assessments combine to provide a clear and well-rounded picture of students' achievement.

There are many important reasons why students should take these assessments, and take them seriously, doing their best to demonstrate their current progress in meeting the standards and skills set by the state of New Jersey and our local Hillsborough Board of Education for all students. Individual score reports can provide detailed analysis of each student's academic strengths and areas for growth in these core disciplines and help students, parents, and teachers make informed decisions regarding academic programs to best meet individual needs.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Assessments will take place between 9:15 a.m. through approximately 11:15 a.m. (end times will vary). Please note, additional testing time will be allocated each day to allow for students to settle in their testing rooms, provide for distribution and collection of materials, reading of directions, etc. This year's schedule is as follows:

PARCC

Grade 5: May 1 – May 9

Grade 6: May 1 – May 8

NJSLA-S

Grade 5: May 17 - 18

Please make every effort to ensure that your child is well-rested and arrives to school promptly for testing; students cannot be admitted into a testing session once it has begun. Please also remind your child to show what he/she knows and to try his/her best on PARCC. Finally, encourage your child that we are confident in his/her ability to do well; the curriculum in our school is designed to prepare all students for success. *Note: Students who are absent for PARCC and/or NJSLA-S testing will make up the test during regularly scheduled school days.*

Resources regarding PARCC and NJSLA-S can be found at the [NJ Department of Education Website](#) and you can access other resources by visiting the ARIS Website (Located under the *School Info* Header). You can also click [HERE](#) to access the information directly.

In preparation for each testing day, please be sure to review the checklists and information on the next page with your child.

SUPPLIES FOR TESTING

Fully Charged Chromebook (student responsibility):

The PARCC and NJSLA-S assessments are entirely computer-based. Students will therefore complete the tasks online using their school-issued Chromebooks. It will be critical that each student come to school prepared with his or her Chromebook fully charged and ready to go each day during the week of testing.

Computer Mouse (strongly recommended):

Although the student Chromebooks are equipped with a touch pad and touch screen, it is strongly recommended that students have a computer mouse with them in the event of a technical glitch involving the touch pad/touch screen.

Wired Earbuds/Headphones (student responsibility):

Some of the literary elements on the PARCC assessments may include video components. For this reason, students are required to have a set of wired earbuds or headphones that can function with their Chromebooks. All students should already have a personal set of earbuds/headphones for school as part of their regular set of school supplies given their work with Chromebooks in school as part of their normal routine. Please make certain that your child has functional earbuds for use in school during our testing week.

Reading Material (recommended):

Students who finish early and have logged-out of the test are only permitted to have access to a school-appropriate, recreational book to read while others in the room are still testing. No electronic devices (i.e. e-readers) are permitted to be in use by anyone in the classroom while testing is in session.

Pencil/Paper (provided by school):

All students will receive a pencil and scratch paper for use during the tests. Students may use pencil and scratch paper for brainstorming, drafting, note taking, or calculations, but all final answers must be recorded online via the Chromebook.

DAILY REMINDERS DURING TESTING DATES

- Charge your chromebook each night before testing
- Get lots of rest
- Eat a healthy breakfast
- Wear comfortable clothes
- Try your very best to be on time to school and to be present on testing days.
- Stay positive and persevere! You are ready to shine and do your best!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Christopher Carey
Principal