

Paul E. Manzo
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February 2, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades 3-8:

In the spring of 2018 our students will be taking the grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics NYS assessments. This year the NYS assessments in ELA and mathematics will be administered as follows:

	<u>Day 1/Session 1</u>	<u>Day 2/Session 2</u>
NYS ELA Assessment	April 11, 2018	April 12, 2018
NYS Math Assessment	May 1, 2018	May 2, 2018

Reduction in the Number of Test Sessions

In June 2017, the Board of Regents decided to reduce the number of days of student testing on the Grades 3–8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests from three sessions for each test to two. This change takes effect beginning with the tests that will be administered in 2018. In addition to reducing the number of sessions, the Board’s decision also reduces scoring time for teachers and may help enable more schools to consider transitioning sooner to Computer Based Testing.

Prohibition of Use of Test Results Moratorium

In addition, the moratorium initiated in December 2016 to prohibit the use of results from the grades 3-8 New York State ELA and Mathematics assessments in evaluating the performance of teachers for a total of four years is still in effect. The main purpose for this action was to allow the NYS Department of Education the opportunity to review the process of transitioning to higher learning standards without penalizing students and/or teachers.

As we prepare for the administration of the NYS assessments in ELA and Mathematics for students in grades 3 – 8, we need your assistance to assure the administration of the assessments goes smoothly for all students. Kindly indicate on the next page your intentions for the upcoming ELA and Mathematics assessments for your child and return it to your child’s teacher no later than Monday, March 26 (for middle school students, please return to your child’s ELA/English teacher). **Please note: Parents are required to return a separate response for each of their children. If you have already notified the building principal of your intentions, the enclosed page will not be needed.**

Your assistance in providing this information at this time is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Manzo
Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Personnel

2018 NYS Gr. 3-8 Assessments Parent Response

Please return to your child's elementary classroom teacher or middle school ELA/English teacher

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____
(Please print)

Elementary Students - Teacher's Name: _____

Middle School Students - ELA/English Teacher: _____

Mathematics Teacher: _____

My child **will** be participating in the 2018 **ELA** assessments.

My child **will** be participating in the 2018 **Mathematics** assessments.

I **will not** allow my child to participate in the 2018 **ELA** assessments.

I **will not** allow my child to participate in the 2018 **Mathematics** assessments.

Parent's Name: _____
(Please print)

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____