



# Clark Public Schools

365 Westfield Avenue • Clark, New Jersey 07066

**Edward Grande**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Tel.: (732) 574-9600 x3392  
Fax: (732) 574-1456  
E-mail: [egrande@clarkschools.org](mailto:egrande@clarkschools.org)

February 22, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) will once again be assessing students in grades three to eight in language arts literacy and mathematics through a computer-based system, now referred to as the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment – English Language Arts (NJSLA-ELA) and the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment – Mathematics (NJSLA-M) but formerly known as the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments. This online testing system will also still be used with ninth through eleventh-grade students to assess their English skills and their Algebra 1, Geometry, or Algebra 2 skills. Fifth, eighth, and eleventh-grade students will continue to participate online in the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment – Science (NJSLA-S) for the second year now. These assessments will all measure student mastery of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. The actual testing schedule/windows are listed below. Please note that each NJSLA consists of only one administration this year as opposed to the two administrations that accompanied the first year of PARCC testing. Students will not be testing throughout these entire NJSLA testing windows. More specific school-based schedules are to follow.

### NJSLA-ELA and NJSLA-M

ALJ	April 8, 2019 to April 26, 2019
CHK	April 30, 2019 to May 15, 2019
FKH	May 7, 2019 to May 24, 2019
VRS	April 8, 2019 to April 12, 2019 and April 22, 2019 to May 3, 2019

### NJSLA-S

Grade 11 ALJ	May 28, 2019 to May 31, 2019
Grade 8 CHK	May 16, 2019 to May 21, 2019
Grade 5 FKH	May 28, 2019 to May 31, 2019
Grade 5 VRS	June 4, 2019 to June 7, 2019

Kindly make certain that, as with any test, your children are well rested and nourished prior to taking these assessments. Students who are absent on a given testing day will be scheduled for the corresponding make-up session. Based on N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1 et seq., parents/guardians cannot “opt out” on behalf of their children when it comes to state-standardized tests. Furthermore, parents at the high school level run the risk of their children not receiving a state-endorsed diploma should their children not complete the assessments. **Despite messages being conveyed by the media, the guidance that we are receiving from the NJDOE is to operate under the same guidelines as in the past. Please also know that we will continue to use these test results as a factor to determine student placement at the various grade levels due to the comparison data over numerous years that we now have. In addition, these results are a key component**



**towards our school rankings. These rankings are of critical importance in terms of how our schools, our school district as a whole, and our township are viewed externally, and such views have a direct correlation on property values.**

I hope you find the information provided above to be helpful. If you have any questions or require any further information, please contact our Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services/Guidance, Mr. Andrew Amendola. Mr. Amendola serves as our District Test Coordinator and can be reached at [aamendola@clarkschools.org](mailto:aamendola@clarkschools.org) or 732-574-9600 ext. 3263.

Yours sincerely,

*Edward Grande*

Edward Grande