



P.S. 24 The Spuyten Duyvil School
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Dear Parents of All 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Students,

On Wednesday, April 11 and Thursday, April 12, all students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be taking the 2018 New York State ELA assessment. Make-up dates for the ELA Exam are April 13, 16, 17, and 18. In addition, on Tuesday, May 1 and Wednesday, May 2, all students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be taking the 2018 New York State Math assessment. Make-up dates for the Math Exam are May 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9.

Please make sure that your child is present in school those days, gets a good night's sleep, has a healthy breakfast, and if they wear eyeglasses, brings them to school.

It is also very important that students arrive on time as lateness impacts everyone involved in testing.

VERY IMPORTANT INFO. REGARDING CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

I have included a directive issued from the NYS Testing Department on the back of this letter. Please read it carefully and discuss it with your child. We will be following all NYSED procedures on testing days.

NEW TO THE 2018 ELA & MATH EXAMS

In summer 2017, NYSED announced, "in 2018, both English Language Arts and Mathematics tests will each consist of two sessions for each grade that will be administered over two days (as opposed to three-day tests)."

Test booklets will continue to be 'spiraled' within a school, which means that students taking the same assessment may receive different test forms and must bubble the correct test form on their answer documents. Furthermore, the ELA and Math exams will remain **untimed**. Students will have as much time as they need as long as they are *working productively*.

Exam – Grade	Estimated Testing Time
ELA – Gr. 3 - 4	60-70 minutes per day
ELA - Gr. 5	80-90 minutes per day
Math – Gr. 3	55-65 minutes Day 1 & 60-70 minutes Day 2
Math – Gr. 4	65-75 minutes per day
Math – Gr. 5	80-90 minutes Day 1 & 70-90 minutes Day 2

We are looking forward to showing off and celebrating all our academic achievements to the city and state! Any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Steven Schwartz, Principal

Jenni-Ann Selvaggi, Test Coordinator

Use of Communications Devices

All students are prohibited from bringing cell phones and certain other electronic devices, as defined in the script below, into a classroom or other location where a State examination is being administered. Test proctors, test monitors, and school officials shall retain the right to collect and hold any prohibited electronic devices prior to the start of the test administration. Admission to the test shall be denied to any student who is in possession of a cell phone or other prohibited electronic device and refuses to relinquish it.

At the beginning of each test administration, proctors must read the following statement to all students taking State examinations:

You cannot have any communications device, including a cell phone, with you during this examination or during any breaks (such as a restroom visit). Such devices include, but are not limited to:

- Cell phones
- iPods and MP3 players
- iPads, tablets, and other eReaders
- Personal laptops, notebooks, or any other computing devices
- Cameras, other photographic equipment, and scanning devices
- Wearable devices/smart wearables, including smart watches and health wearables with a display
- Headphones, headsets, or in-ear headphones such as earbuds, and
- Any other device capable of recording audio, photographic, or video content, or capable of viewing or playing back such content, or sending/receiving text, audio, or video messages

If you brought any of these items to the building today, and have not already stored it in your locker or turned it over to me, a test monitor or school official, you must give it to me now. You may not keep your cell phone or any of these items with you, or near you, including in your pockets, backpack, desk, etc. If you keep a cell phone or any of these items with you, your examination will be invalidated and you will get no score. Is there anyone who needs to give me any of these items now?

[Proctor: repeat list of devices.]

This is your last opportunity to do so before the test begins.

If any student is observed with any prohibited device while taking a State examination, the proctor must direct the student to turn the device over to the proctor immediately, allow the student to complete the test (to allow for all possible outcomes of procedural due process); and report the incident promptly to the school principal.

If the student had a prohibited device in his or her possession during the test administration, the principal must invalidate the student's test (no score may be calculated for that student) and report the incident to OSA.