



Glen Rock High School



400 Hamilton Avenue, Glen Rock, New Jersey 07452
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March 6, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As you may know, New Jersey Schools will be administering the fifth year of PARCC/NJSLA testing this spring for students in Grades 9-11. The high school testing dates are April 22, 23 & 24 (ELA) and April 29 and 30 (Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II). Testing times are 7:50 AM – 9:20 AM on each of these days. Students will be tested in specified classrooms, using their school-issued laptops. These locations will be sent to the students via *Schoology* at a later date.

There will be a delayed opening for all students not tested (Grade 12 - ELA and Students not taking Algebra I, Geometry or Algebra II). These students are to report to school at 9:20 AM on these days. Please do not have them arrive early as they will not be permitted into the school before this time. May 1 is listed on our calendar as a testing day, but due to recent changes in the state testing times, this day will be a regularly scheduled day.

If your child took the PARCC assessments last year, you should have received an individualized score report. Each year, I appeal to you to encourage your child to take this assessment seriously. I want to thank you for your efforts, as we saw a marked increase in participation each year, particularly the last two years. Our selection this past year as a **National Blue Ribbon School** was due in part to our students' test scores and high levels of participation!

It is important that you have a clear understanding of the implications this test has for graduation, both now and in the future. Students graduating as members of the classes of 2019 and 2020 can meet graduation assessment requirements through a variety of ways, including:

- 1) Achieving passing scores on certain PARCC assessments;
- 2) Achieving certain scores on alternative assessments such as the PSAT, SAT, ACT or ASVAB; or
- 3) The submission by the district of a student portfolio through the Department of Education's portfolio appeals process.

(Special Education students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) that specify an alternative way to demonstrate proficiencies will continue to follow the graduation requirements set forth in their IEPs.)

There is still uncertainty from the state regarding the Class of 2021 and beyond. There is a strong likelihood that, in order to meet the graduation requirements, **these students will be required to take the**



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PARCC/NJSLA for the English Language Arts and Mathematics classes in which they are enrolled. In addition, it is likely that alternate assessments may no longer be accepted in meeting the graduation assessment requirement.

It is important that parents understand that these test results can be used in making decisions with regard to class placements and honors programs. It is also important to understand that an increased number of colleges are using testing results in their placement decisions as well. Additionally, on-line assessments are common-place in many colleges and employment situations.

Should you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's counselor or me.

Sincerely,

John Arlotta