

ARTHUR P. SCHALICK HIGH SCHOOL

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Home of the Cougars

April 9, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you may be aware, New Jersey State law and regulations require all students to take statewide assessments. Thus, it is our district's responsibility to provide appropriate assessment and follow state mandates that encourage student learning. In May 2018, Arthur P. Schalick will administer the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) as well as the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment – Science (NJSLA-S), for 11th grade ONLY. Important information regarding testing on these dates is detailed in the information that follows:

STATE REQUIREMENTS:

Starting with the Class of 2021, students will only have two pathways to meet the high school graduation assessments requirements: (1) Pass the ELA 10 and Algebra 1 assessments; or (2) The submission by the district of a student portfolio through the Department's portfolio appeals process, assuming the student has taken all PARCC assessments associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible* and receives valid scores. **Alternate assessments (PSAT, SAT, ACT or ASVAB) will no longer be accepted in meeting the graduation assessment requirement.**

SESSIONS TO BE TESTED:

All students will be tested in 3 units of English Language Arts (ELA 9, ELA 10, and ELA 11) 90 minutes each, and 3 units of Math (ALG 1, ALG 2 and GEO) 90 minutes each. Additionally, **ALL 11th grade** students will take 4 units of the NJSLA-Science 45 minutes each unit.

TESTING SCHEDULE PARCC Grades:

TEST	ELA Units 1 & 2	ELA Unit 3	ELA Make-UP
DATE	Monday, May 21, 2018	Tuesday, May 22, 2018	Wednesday, May 23, 2018

TEST	MATH Units 1 & 2	MATH Unit 3	MATH Make-UP
DATE	Tuesday, May 29, 2018	Wednesday, May 30, 2018	Thursday, May 31, 2018

TESTING SCHEDULE NJSLA-Science Grade 11 ONLY:

TEST	Science Units 1-4	Science Make-Up
DATE	Thursday, May 24, 2018	Friday, May 25, 2018

All testing will take place at the beginning of the school day. There will be an abbreviated bell schedule on Monday, May 21, 2018, Thursday, May 24, 2018 and Tuesday, May 29, 2018. At the end of their respective testing sessions, students will resume their regular school day schedule.

TESTING DEVICES & HEADPHONES/EARBUDS

- All students will be taking the Computer Based PARCC Assessment
- Students will complete all testing sessions using a Chromebook or desktop computer.
- Certain sections of the PARCC assessment require the use of headphones.
- We encourage students to bring their own headphones/earbuds for testing. If your child does not have earbuds/headphones, they will be provided. **No wireless Bluetooth headphones will be permitted during testing.**

ABSENCE/TARDINESS TO TESTING:

Students who are absent from or tardy to testing will be required to make up the section of the test, which was missed. Make-up test sessions will be scheduled for the appropriate make-up day unless special circumstances arise.

CELL PHONES, IPODS, & OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

Cell phones, IPODS, Smart Watches, or any electronic devices other than the one used to complete the test may not be in the testing room. The New Jersey Department of Education considers possession of any of these items a breach of test security and will void the test. Students with voided tests will not be allowed to take a make-up test.

TEST PREPARATION

During testing time, there are several things you can do at home to help your child prepare for this test:

- Make sure your child gets plenty of rest during the entire testing period.
- Test-day preparation should include a nutritious breakfast.
- Encourage your child to try his/her best on the tests. He/she is not expected to know everything.
- Please do not request to sign your child out during the testing administration, as it will interrupt the testing environment and may negatively affect your child's test score.

TEST PRACTICE:

What if my student needs more practice than what is being offered in school? Parents have full access to the tutorials at home on any Internet capable device. Type the link below into the web browser of your choice and click on one of the sample tests. Encourage your students to practice with the online tools at home. Additional practice will allow students to gain familiarity with the technology platform that will be used for PARCC.

<https://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/>

These tests provide important information for individual students and the school district. A great deal of time and effort has been devoted to preparing our school and students for these tests, and we plan to analyze the results to help improve the educational program as it pertains to New Jersey standards.

We appreciate your continued support and our efforts to ensure a quality educational experience for our students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Ms. Angela Williams
Director of Guidance