



Cherry Hill Public Schools

Dr. Joseph Meloche, Superintendent
Malberg Administration Building
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February 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As one of the largest school districts in New Jersey, Cherry Hill is preparing to administer the PARCC assessments to nearly 8,000 students during the PARCC End of Year Assessment (EOY) period, April 4, 2016 through May 20, 2016. The logistical demands of administering the assessment while mitigating the overall impact on the instructional program, are daunting, yet achievable.

The PARCC assessments have been developed as tools to measure students' individual levels of progression toward meeting the goals outlined in the Common Core Standards. These standards serve as the foundational basis for the New Jersey Model Curriculum and for Cherry Hill's own district approved curriculum. The measures of performance from the PARCC assessments will be used as a diagnostic tool in addressing areas of strength and areas of needed growth for each student. The measures of performance will in no way, be used as the singular tool in making decisions about a student's success and they will not impact a student's progression to the next grade level.

Participation in the statewide assessment is a part of the educational program of a child who is enrolled in the public school system, as established in NJSA 18A:7C-1 and NJAC 6A:8-4.1(a) and (b). This statutory requirement has been reiterated by the Commissioner of Education, David Hespe, and by the New Jersey State Board of Education. While Pearson is the company that has been commissioned to produce the PARCC assessments, the guidelines regarding protocol for administration of the assessments are disseminated by the Department of Education.

As an educational community, we have continued to examine our plans for the administration of the PARCC assessment. For the 2016 administration of the PARCC assessments, a child whose parents/guardians refuse will be placed in an alternate location and will be permitted to read silently or to complete independent work. Parents/guardians will be required to submit their notice of refusal in writing by Friday, March 4, 2016 to the building principal. This deadline will provide the district appropriate time to respond and prepare for the 2016 PARCC administration with specific attention to verifying that all Eleventh and Twelfth grade students who are refusing PARCC have fulfilled the State graduation requirement and for those who have not provide support towards that end.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact your building principal.

Regards,

Dr. Joseph N. Meloche
Superintendent

OVER



Rosa International Middle School

École Rosa Internationale
Escuela Internacional Rosa

485 Browning Lane
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003-3160 USA
<http://rosaweb.chclc.org>



Mr. George Guy, *Principal*
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February 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our students will again participate in the New Jersey State Assessments called PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career) during the testing window of April 4, 2016 – May 13, 2016. Following the Spring 2015 test administration, enhancements have been made based on feedback from local districts.

- There is now a consolidated testing window (instead of two separate windows)
- Reduced time of testing (90 fewer minutes)
- Decreased number of sections

Rosa International Middle School's testing calendar is updated on our school's Google Calendar, which is conveniently located on our website. The grade levels will be tested during the following dates:

- 8th Grade: April 4, 2016 – April 11, 2016
- 7th Grade: April 12, 2016 – April 19, 2016
- 6th Grade: April 20, 2016 – April 27, 2016

During the PARCC assessment window, ALL students are asked to report to school on time (prior to 8am) so they are not disrupting testing within our building.

As noted in Dr. Meloche's community letter, PARCC is not optional and a requirement for our students and our school. Rosa's goal is to have 100% student participation in the PARCC assessment. The information we gain from the PARCC, married with district data such as grades and common assessments, provides a better representation of our students' growth. Student growth is analyzed to better inform instruction in a focused manner while addressing students' needs that may be aligned with intervention or enrichment. **Without this information it is more difficult to measure growth, celebrate our accomplishments, and address needs.**

It is your right as a parent to submit a notice of refusal, as noted in Dr. Meloche's community letter, but I ask you to **please encourage participation in this assessment** for the reasons noted above. More information about the PARCC can be found at <http://www.parcconline.org/resources/parent-resources>.

Thank you for your support of our school and your child's success.

Yours in this educational journey,

George Guy,
Principal