

# *Manasquan Public Schools*

*Central Administrative Offices, 169 Broad Street, Manasquan, New Jersey 08736*

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September 29, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Samuel Clemens once said, "Give every day the chance to become the most beautiful of your life." As I have often said, Manasquan is a magical place and I am frequently reminded that this community makes it easy for this thought to be realized. With this in mind, I am communicating with you today to provide some important information on the state assessments that will be administered this school year.

The New Jersey Department of Education mandates that every year by October 1 each school district must provide parents or guardians certain information on state assessments. This information can be found summarized in the table on the next page, but I would first like to take a moment to focus on the relevancy of PARCC testing as well as the state graduation requirements.

- First and foremost, PARCC is aligned to the state's new academic standards that are guiding what and how your children are taught in class. In addition to providing an overall score in both subjects, the test also shows how well your child is performing in comparison to peers in his or her grade level, school and district, as well as useful information about your children's strengths and areas for improvement.
- PARCC is not meant to provide a complete picture of student achievement, but when combined with other measures, including teacher reports and student grades, it provides important information about your child's progress. Our staff utilizes this information as we plan for each year.
- The PARCC reports break down each subject tested into different categories of skills and show how well your child performed in each. This helps you and your child's teacher understand where your child is doing well and where he or she needs more support. You can use this information to guide a discussion with your child's teacher(s) about additional supports or challenges needed in class and other ways to support your child at home. Our teachers and principals use this information to improve classroom instruction and provide more effective and targeted support and professional development. We can also identify where your child has mastered content so we can provide more challenging work to continue to keep him or her engaged and making progress.
- These tests serve as an 'academic checkup.' Although they are only one measure of your child's progress, the scores on the PARCC test can be compared from one year to the next. The test is a useful tool to determine your child's performance and the level of progress and readiness for the next grade.
- The state has developed graduation requirements based on a student participating in PARCC testing in order to earn a valid score and/or a "meets expectations" score in Language Arts and Math. Requirements differ according to the graduation year as the state allowed districts to prepare for the new test:

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- Class of 2018 & 2019 can meet graduation requirements by achieving a passing score on any grade level English & math PARCC test; achieve a certain score on an alternate assessment (SAT; ACT; Accuplacer; submission of a district compiled student portfolio which is presented through an appeals process).
- Class of 2020 can meet graduation requirements with one of the three options presented for the class of 2018 & 2019; however, students must take all PARCC assessments associated with the high-school level courses for which they are eligible and receive valid scores.
- Starting with the class of 2021 students can meet graduation requirements by earning a passing score in English Language Arts Grade 10 and Algebra 1 AND take all PARCC assessments associated with the high-school level courses for which they are eligible and receive valid scores. The second option is the submission of a district compiled student portfolio which is presented through an appeals process.

You will find a summary of the state assessments for the 2017-2018 school year on the following page. I have also included several pages from the Department of Education outlining the currently available graduation requirements and how they relate to these assessments.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in education,



Frank Kasyan, Ed.D.

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## State Assessments 2017-2018

Assessment	Date/Time	Grades/Subjects Covered	Results Available
<b>PARCC ELA</b>  Practice Tests: <a href="https://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/english/">https://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/english/</a>  *Testing Times: 3 Units @ 75-110 mins each	Fall Block Courses <i>(HS Only)</i> : 11/27/17-1/16/18  Spring Block Courses <i>(HS Only)</i> : 4/23/17/-6/8/18  Full Year Courses: 4/16/18-5/25/18	English Language Arts, Grades 3-11 Curriculum	Fall Block: Spring 2018  Spring Block & Full Year: Summer 2018
<b>PARCC Mathematics</b>  Practice Tests: <a href="https://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/math">https://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/math</a>  *Testing Times: 3-4 units @ 60-90 mins each	Fall Block Courses <i>(HS Only)</i> : 11/27/17-1/16/18  Spring Block Courses <i>(HS Only)</i> : 4/23/18-6/8/18  Full Year Courses: 4/16/18-5/25/18	Mathematics Grades 3-8, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, & Geometry	Fall Block: Spring 2018  Spring Block & Full Year: Summer 2018
<b>Science</b>	<i>The New Jersey Department of Education is currently in the process of developing a new science assessment. The assessment will be aligned with the newly implemented New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Science. Information regarding this assessment and testing dates will be provided as it becomes available.</i>		

**\* If a student is permitted extra time or any other accommodations by their IEP or 504 plan parents/guardians should contact their case manager or appropriate guidance office for additional details on accommodations and accessibility options.**

## High School Graduation Assessment Requirements

Updated August 2017

On August 3, 2016, the State Board of Education approved updated state regulations for the high school graduation assessments requirements in both English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for the Classes of 2016 through 2021, and beyond. These new state regulations ([N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1](#)) became effective on September 6, 2016.

**The Classes of 2018 and 2019** – Students graduating as members of the Classes of 2018 and 2019 can meet graduation assessment requirements through any of these **three pathways**:

- (1) Achieving passing scores on high-level PARCC assessments;
  - (2) Achieving certain scores on alternative assessments such as the SAT, ACT, or Accuplacer; or
  - (3) The submission by the district of a student portfolio through the Department’s portfolio appeals process.
- (Special Education students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) specify an alternative way to demonstrate proficiencies will continue to follow the graduation requirements set forth in their IEPs.)

**The Class of 2020** – Students in the Class of 2020 can demonstrate graduation assessment proficiency through the same **three pathways** as those in the Classes of 2017 through 2019, provided that **students in the Class of 2020 take all PARCC assessments** associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible\* and **receive valid scores**, as of the September 6, 2016 effective date the amendments were adopted by the State Board of Education.

**The Class of 2021 and Beyond** – 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**.

**Each school year the NJDOE will determine the proficiency level** needed on the assessments to meet the requirements.

It is important to note that our students have always been able to meet graduation requirements through an alternative assessment or pathway to graduation throughout New Jersey’s forty-year history with a statewide assessment program, and will continue to be able to do so.

In this document, you will find charts containing the list of assessment requirements in both ELA and mathematics for the high school graduation Classes of 2018 through 2021.

*Note: \* “Eligible” is defined as a student who is enrolled in a high-school level course for which there is a PARCC test and receives a valid score. This includes all of these courses: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, ELA 9, ELA 10, and ELA 11.*

# ELA and Math Assessment Requirements for the Class of 2018

<u>Three Pathways Available</u>	<u>English Language Arts (ELA)</u>	<u>Mathematics</u>
<u>First Pathway</u> Take and Pass a PARCC Test	PARCC ELA Grade 9 $\geq$ 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> PARCC ELA Grade 10 $\geq$ 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> PARCC ELA Grade 11 $\geq$ 725 (Level 3)	PARCC Algebra I $\geq$ 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> PARCC Geometry $\geq$ 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i> PARCC Algebra II $\geq$ 725 (Level 3)
<u>Second Pathway</u> Take and Pass one of the Alternative Assessments	SAT Critical Reading (taken before 3/1/16) $\geq$ 400 <i>or</i> SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section (taken 3/1/16 or later) $\geq$ 450 <i>or</i> SAT Reading Test (taken 3/1/16 or later) $\geq$ 22 <i>or</i> ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading* $\geq$ 16 <i>or</i> Accuplacer WritePlacer $\geq$ 6 <i>or</i> Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL $\geq$ 4 <i>or</i> PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading (taken before 10/1/15) $\geq$ 40 <i>or</i> PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading (taken 10/1/15 or later) $\geq$ 22 <i>or</i> ACT Aspire Reading* $\geq$ 422 <i>or</i> ASVAB-AFQT Composite $\geq$ 31	SAT Math (taken before 3/1/16) $\geq$ 400 <i>or</i> SAT Math Section (taken 3/1/16 or later) $\geq$ 440 <i>or</i> SAT Math Test (taken 3/1/16 or later) $\geq$ 22 <i>or</i> ACT or ACT PLAN* Math $\geq$ 16 <i>or</i> Accuplacer Elementary Algebra $\geq$ 76 <i>or</i> PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math (taken before 10/1/15) $\geq$ 40 <i>or</i> PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math (taken 10/1/15 or later) $\geq$ 22 <i>or</i> ACT Aspire Math* $\geq$ 422 <i>or</i> ASVAB-AFQT Composite $\geq$ 31
<u>Third Pathway</u> Portfolio Appeals	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math

*Note: \* Test is no longer administered but can be used for the graduating year.*

# ELA and Math Assessment Requirements for the Class of 2019

<u>Three Pathways Available</u>	<u>English Language Arts (ELA)</u>	<u>Mathematics</u>
<p><u>First Pathway</u> Take and Pass a PARCC Test</p>	<p>PARCC ELA Grade 9 <math>\geq</math> 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> PARCC ELA Grade 10 <math>\geq</math> 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> PARCC ELA Grade 11 <math>\geq</math> 725 (Level 3)</p>	<p>PARCC Algebra I <math>\geq</math> 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> PARCC Geometry <math>\geq</math> 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i> PARCC Algebra II <math>\geq</math> 725 (Level 3)</p>
<p><u>Second Pathway</u> Take and Pass one of the Alternative Assessments</p>	<p>SAT Critical Reading (taken before 3/1/16) <i>or</i> SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section (taken 3/1/16 or later) <i>or</i> SAT Reading Test (taken 3/1/16 or later) <i>or</i> ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading* <i>or</i> Accuplacer WritePlacer <i>or</i> Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL <i>or</i> PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading (taken before 10/1/15) <i>or</i> PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading (taken 10/1/15 or later) <i>or</i> ACT Aspire Reading* <i>or</i> ASVAB-AFQT Composite</p>	<p>SAT Math (taken before 3/1/16) <i>or</i> SAT Math Section (taken 3/1/16 or later) <i>or</i> SAT Math Test (taken 3/1/16 or later) <i>or</i> ACT or ACT PLAN* Math <i>or</i> Accuplacer Elementary Algebra <i>or</i> PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math (taken before 10/1/15) <i>or</i> PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math (taken 10/1/15 or later) <i>or</i> ACT Aspire Math* <i>or</i> ASVAB-AFQT Composite</p>
<p><u>Third Pathway</u> Portfolio Appeals</p>	<p>Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA</p>	<p>Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math</p>

Note: \* Test is no longer administered but can be used for the graduating year.

# ELA and Math Assessment Requirements for the Class of 2020

<u>Three Pathways Available</u>	<u>English Language Arts (ELA)</u>	<u>Mathematics</u>
<p><u>First Pathway</u> Take and Pass a PARCC Test</p>	<p>PARCC ELA Grade 9 <i>or</i> PARCC ELA Grade 10 <i>or</i> PARCC ELA Grade 11</p>	<p>PARCC Algebra I*** <i>or</i> PARCC Geometry <i>or</i> PARCC Algebra II</p>
<p><u>Second Pathway</u> Take and Pass one of the Alternative Assessments</p> <p><i>This Pathway is only available if a student takes all PARCC tests associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible and receive valid scores*</i></p>	<p>SAT Reading Test <i>or</i> ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading** <i>or</i> Accuplacer WritePlacer <i>or</i> Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL <i>or</i> PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading <i>or</i> ACT Aspire Reading** <i>or</i> ASVAB-AFQT Composite</p>	<p>SAT Math Test <i>or</i> ACT or ACT PLAN Math** <i>or</i> Accuplacer Elementary Algebra <i>or</i> PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math <i>or</i> ACT Aspire Math** <i>or</i> ASVAB-AFQT Composite</p>
<p><u>Third Pathway</u> Portfolio Appeals</p> <p><i>This Pathway is only available if a student takes all PARCC tests associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible and receive valid scores*</i></p>	<p>Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA</p>	<p>Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math</p>

Note: \* "Eligible" is defined as a student who is enrolled in a high-school level course for which there is a PARCC test and receives a valid score. This includes all of these courses: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, ELA 9, ELA 10, and ELA 11. \*\* Test is no longer administered but can be used for the graduating year. \*\*\* The [NJDOE is providing flexibility](#) to meet the math assessment requirement for students in the Classes of 2020 and 2021 who completed an Algebra I course prior to the September 6, 2016 effective date of the new high school assessment regulations.

## ELA and Math Assessment Requirements for the Class of 2021

<u>Two Pathways Available</u>	<u>English Language Arts (ELA)</u>	<u>Mathematics</u>
<u>First Pathway</u>	Take and Pass PARCC ELA Grade 10	Take and Pass PARCC Algebra I**
<u>Second Pathway</u>  <i>This Pathway is only available if a student takes all PARCC tests associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible*</i>	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math

Note: \* "Eligible" is defined as a student who is enrolled in a high-school level course for which there is a PARCC test and receive a valid score. This includes all of these courses: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, ELA 9, ELA 10, and ELA 11. \*\* The [NJDOE is providing flexibility](#) to meet the math assessment requirement for students in the Classes of 2020 and 2021 who completed an Algebra I course prior to the September 6, 2016 effective date of the new high school assessment regulations.