

Good Morning Families,

Beginning in April, our grade 8 students will begin to participate in our annual state assessments (Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System and Next Generation Science Assessment). Over the coming weeks, Dr. Anderson and I will be meeting with the students to go over testing procedures and protocols. Dr. Anderson and I will be reassuring students that over the past year they have been working hard in their classes, engaging deeply with their content and curriculum, and they are ready to show and celebrate everything they have learned over the past year. It is most important that the students try their hardest and give their best! We wish all of our students the best of luck and we know they will do great!

Your eighth grade child will be engaging in RICAS for English Language Arts (ELA) and Math on the following dates:

Test Location

Your child will be tested in their FAST classroom unless they have an alternate test location as an accommodation through an IEP or 504 Plan.

ELA:

Tuesday, April 12 (Session 1)

Wednesday, April 13 (Session 2).

ELA Makeup Day: April 28

(note: School counselors will be working with teachers/students to make up assessment)

Test Sessions:

ELA Session 1: 120 minutes + 20 minutes = 140 minutes

ELA Session 2: 120 minutes + 20 minutes = 140 minutes

- 20 minutes are provided for extra time within the test window.
- Test Window: 9:00 - 11:20

ELA Session 1 & 2

8:20-8:50- Students report to their testing rooms

9:00 - 11:20 - Testing Window

(8:55 - 11:30) Directions, Testing & Cleanup

11:33 - 1:32 Lunch & Cluster Academic Time

(Students will eat lunch at normally scheduled time)

1:32 - 2:22- Allied Arts

2:25 - 3:15- Allied Arts

NGSA

Wednesday, May 4 (Session 1)

Thursday, May 5 (Session 2)

NGSA Makeup Day: May 27

(note: School counselors will be working with teachers/students to make up assessment)

Test Sessions:

Science Session 1: 80 minutes + 20 minutes = 100 minutes

Science Session 2: 80 minutes + 20 minutes = 100 minutes

- 20 minutes are provided for extra time within the test window.
- Test Window: 9:00 - 10:40

Science Session 1 & 2

8:20-8:50- Students report to their testing rooms (FAST class)

9:00 - 10:40- Testing Window

(8:55 - 10:45) Directions, Testing & Cleanup

10:48 - 1:32 Lunch & Cluster Academic Time
(Lunch schedule- see changes below)

1:32 - 2:22- Allied Arts/Duty

2:25 - 3:15- Allied Arts/Planning

Math:

Thursday, May 19 (Session 1)

Friday, May 20 (Session 2)

Math Makeup Day: May 27

(note: School counselors will be working with teachers/students to make up assessment)

Test Sessions:

Math Session 1: 90 minutes + 20 minutes = 110 minutes

Math Session 2: 90 minutes + 20 minutes = 110 minutes

- 20 minutes are provided for extra time within the test window.
- Test Window: 9:00 - 10:50

Math Session 1 & 2

8:20-8:50- Students report to their testing rooms

9:00 - 10:50- Testing Window

(8:55 - 10:55) Directions, Testing & Cleanup

10:58 - 1:32 Lunch & Cluster Academic Time

(Students will eat lunch at normally scheduled time)

1:32 - 2:22- Allied Arts

2:25 - 3:15- Allied Arts

Schedule of Periods During 8th Grade Testing Days

| Order of Periods |
|------------------|
| 1 |
| 2 |
| 7 |
| 6 |
| 5 |
| 3 |
| 4 |

What happens if my child does not finish testing in the test window?

If your child does not complete their assessment in the original window of time, your child will be provided time to finish the assessment in an alternate location.

What if my child finishes the assessment early?

Your child can read an independent reading book if they finish early.

Important NGSA and RICAS Reminders for Your Child

- ☐ Please be on time for school.

- ❑ Be sure to eat a healthy breakfast
- ❑ Bring your own BMS-issued chromebook, fully charged for testing each day. **No personal devices are allowed.**
- ❑ Bring a pen or pencil to use for scrap work.
- ❑ Bring an independent reading book to the testing session.
- ❑ **All chromebooks will automatically go into testing mode the night before testing is set to begin. When the chromebook is opened, a box with “TestNav 8” will pop up.** To use the chromebook for school work after the testing period, hit “Ctrl, Alt S” to bypass the RICAS testing platform. If this is done during testing, students will automatically be logged out of Pearson and could risk losing their completed material.
- ❑ **NO other electronic devices (cell phones, smart watches, air pods, tablets, ipods, etc.) are allowed in the testing session. Any devices must be off and in your backpacks until after the testing session is over.**

Thank you for your cooperation and support during RICAS. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Have a nice day,

Elliott LeFaiver