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Dear Parents/ Guardians,

This spring, schools across New Jersey will administer the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) in English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science. The assessments for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics will be administered to students in grades 3-9, and the science assessments will be administered to students in grades 5, 8 and 11.

The state mandated NJSLA assessments provide a deeper level of information about student progress than previous tests which makes them a valuable tool to measure student performance. The assessments identify areas where a student may need additional support as well as where he or she has mastered the content and can be challenged to go deeper into the subject matter. No single test can give a complete picture of achievement, but when combined with course grades and teacher reports, a clearer understanding of individual student progress is gained, and performance can be monitored over time.

In May, the NJ Student Learning Assessment will be administered to students in grades 3, 4, and 5. Students in grades 3-5 will take NJSLA in ELA and Math. Students in grade 5 will take the NJSLA in Science. Below please find the testing schedule for May.

May 7, 8	Grades 3-5 ELA (1 unit per day)
May 9, 10	Grade 5 Science (2 units per day)
May 13, 14, 15	Grades 3-5 Math (1 unit per day)

Parents/Guardians will be provided with an Individual Student Report (ISR) following the close of the assessment window. The ISR will provide parents with a sense of their child's understanding in the tested content areas; a description of the major concepts that were tested; and points for discussions with their child and teacher(s) about areas where students may need additional support.

Children who are well rested, have had breakfast, and take the tests during their scheduled testing sessions tend to perform better on standardized tests. Your cooperation will result in an accurate assessment of your child's proficiency. Headphones or ear buds are required for the ELA portion of the NJSLA; it is advised to have your child bring their own on their testing day. If they do not have headphones, they will be provided.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Caulfield

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