

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the paper-based Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) Grade 3 ELA Reading or Grades 4-5 ELA Writing assessment on Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. The Grade 4-5 Reading test will be administered on Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Grade 3-5 Mathematics test will be given on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. The Grade 5 Science NGSSS test will be administered on Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Please plan accordingly.

**Per the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), no remote administrations are available for any statewide summative assessments.**

Brick and mortar students will follow the regular schedule and report to their rooms as they do daily. Testing takes approximately two hours to complete (Writing 120 min./Reading 80 min.). Brick and mortar students will dismiss daily at their normal dismissal time.

**Safety Precautions:**

All students must wear a mask and social distancing will be in effect. We will provide students with bottled water if needed. Students can bring a light snack to eat after testing is completed.

The test your student is scheduled for is designed to be taken over two days (one session per day) to prevent testing fatigue (**except for ELA Writing which is one session**).

For information regarding session lengths for Spring 2021 assessments, please see the [2020–2021 Florida Statewide Grade-Level Assessments Fact Sheet](#).

To help your student become comfortable with the item types and response formats, the following resources are available at <http://www.FSAssessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/paper-based-practice-test-materials/>:

- Paper-Based Practice Tests and Answer Keys
- Student Presentations

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them**. If your student is found with an electronic device during testing, his or her test will be invalidated. All devices will remain in their bookbag and out of reach.
- **Calculators**—Calculators are not permitted during Grades 3–6 Mathematics tests.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment printed in the student’s test and answer book that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signing below the statement in their test and answer book.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states: “Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items, passages, and prompts) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites.” Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, FDOE employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually

similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.

- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment, illness), he or she **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, please contact Eric Findley at 813-854-6031. For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at [www.FSAssessments.org](http://www.FSAssessments.org).

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during Spring 2021 assessments.

Sincerely,

Edith Lefler