

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the paper-based Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) for Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 or the computer-based FSA for Grades 7 and 8 this spring. All students will take ELA Reading and ELA Writing (no writing for 3rd Grade) and Mathematics. Additionally, science assessments will be administered for grades 5, 8 and Biology as well as a Civics exam for many 7th graders. An exact calendar of these dates can be found on the reverse side of this letter.

All digital students will be expected to come on campus to participate in these assessments. You will be provided with further instructions on this process as the testing dates get closer. Social distancing practices, including wearing a mask and temperature checks will be implemented on each test day.

Your student will have an opportunity to participate in practice sessions to become familiar with the item types and response formats he or she will see on the FSA assessments. If you or your student would like to review the materials, practice tests and answer keys are available at <http://www.FSAssessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests>.

For information regarding test session lengths for all Spring 2021 grade-level assessments, please see the 2020–2021 Florida Statewide Grade-Level Assessments Fact Sheet.

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, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculators**—Calculators will be provided when needed and permitted.
- **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, the Florida Department of Education (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 questions.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact **Mrs. Holbrook at elizabeth.holbrook@osceolaschools.net**. For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at www.FSAssessments.org.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Rhonda McMahan