

CHERRY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Clara Barton Elementary School
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Mr. Sean F. Sweeney
Principal

Learning • Growing • Giving back

February 18, 2016

Dear Parents,

Administration of PARCC Assessments for grades 3-5 will begin on Monday, April 4, 2016 and will continue through the week of May 13, 2016. Below are the testing dates for each individual grade level.

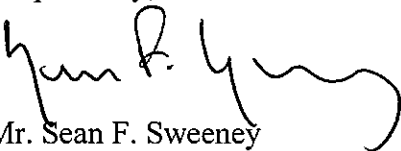
- 5th grade PARCC Testing: April 4-8, 11-12
- 4th grade PARCC Testing: April 13-15, 18-21
- 3rd grade PARCC Testing: April 25-27, May 2-5

The PARCC Assessment is a way for our students to demonstrate their level of success during this academic year. Please remember the following important details so that we can provide the best testing experience possible for our students. Students perform better in school when they...

- go to bed early and get a restful night's sleep
- eat a healthy breakfast
- arrive to school on time
- dress comfortably for classroom temperatures
- try their BEST

Please know that we will strive to maintain our school's routines during this testing period, making minimal changes to student schedules. As always, we appreciate the support and encouragement you offer our students, and look forward to them performing to the best of their ability!

Respectfully,



Mr. Sean F. Sweeney



Cherry Hill Public Schools

Dr. Joseph Meloche, Superintendent
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace, P.O. Box 5015
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
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February 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As one of the largest school districts in New Jersey, Cherry Hill is preparing to administer the PARCC assessments to nearly 8,000 students during the PARCC End of Year Assessment (EOY) period, April 4, 2016 through May 20, 2016. The logistical demands of administering the assessment while mitigating the overall impact on the instructional program, are daunting, yet achievable.

The PARCC assessments have been developed as tools to measure students' individual levels of progression toward meeting the goals outlined in the Common Core Standards. These standards serve as the foundational basis for the New Jersey Model Curriculum and for Cherry Hill's own district approved curriculum. The measures of performance from the PARCC assessments will be used as a diagnostic tool in addressing areas of strength and areas of needed growth for each student. The measures of performance will in no way, be used as the singular tool in making decisions about a student's success and they will not impact a student's progression to the next grade level.

Participation in the statewide assessment is a part of the educational program of a child who is enrolled in the public school system, as established in NJSA 18A:7C-1 and NJAC 6A:8-4.1(a) and (b). This statutory requirement has been reiterated by the Commissioner of Education, David Hespe, and by the New Jersey State Board of Education. While Pearson is the company that has been commissioned to produce the PARCC assessments, the guidelines regarding protocol for administration of the assessments are disseminated by the Department of Education.

As an educational community, we have continued to examine our plans for the administration of the PARCC assessment. For the 2016 administration of the PARCC assessments, a child whose parents/guardians refuse will be placed in an alternate location and will be permitted to read silently or to complete independent work. Parents/guardians will be required to submit their notice of refusal in writing by Friday, March 4, 2016 to the building principal. This deadline will provide the district appropriate time to respond and prepare for the 2016 PARCC administration.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact your building principal.

Regards,

Dr. Joseph N. Meloche
Superintendent