



# HAUPPAUGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

495 Hoffman Lane, Hauppauge, NY 11788

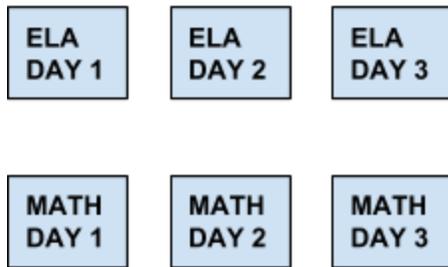
March 26, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

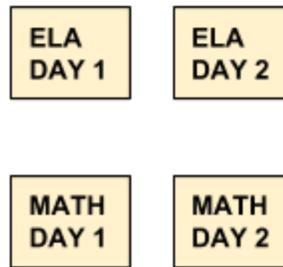
In Hauppauge School District we pride ourselves on high quality instruction and an overall education that provides a strong foundation for our students. In order to provide the best education possible, we rely upon assessment data from our students to inform our instructional and programmatic decision-making. This includes classroom-based assessments, benchmark assessments, universal screenings used for Response to Intervention (RtI), as well as federally mandated New York State 3-8 Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA) Assessments.

This year, **New York State** has reduced the number of testing days.

Prior Years



This Year



Assessment Schedule

	ELA Schedule	MATH Schedule
Grade 3	April 12, 13	May 2, 3
Grade 4	April 12, 13	May 2, 3
Grade 5	April 12, 13	May 2, 3
Grade 6	April 12, 13	May 2, 3
Grade 7	April 12, 13	May 2, 3
Grade 8	April 12, 13	May 2, 3

	SCIENCE Schedule
Grade 4	June 4
Grade 8	June 4

When these assessments are administered to all students, Hauppauge School District benefits by receiving valuable assessment data in two important areas:

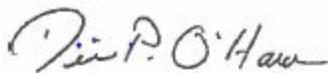
- First, the data helps us assess our school's instructional program in meeting the demands of rigorous academic standards that guide our students toward future success; and
- Second, and most importantly, the data provides valuable diagnostic information on individual students that assist us in meeting their different learning needs in the school.

Over the past several years on Long Island we have witnessed a widespread test-refusal movement. Here, in Hauppauge, we were encouraged to see an increase in the percentage of our students taking the assessments last year compared to 2016. We want to continue the momentum this testing season as our opt-out numbers remain high in comparison to many districts across the Island. Because several of the concerns with the NYS testing program have now been addressed, **we believe it is important to have all of our students participate in these assessments to demonstrate their understanding of ELA, Mathematics and Science.**

As parents, the results of these assessments provide you an additional data point to gauge how your child is progressing through Hauppauge School District with an end goal of being "college and career ready." State assessment results combined with a teacher's gradebook, STAR diagnostic reports, and other qualitative and quantitative data provide a comprehensive instructional profile of your son/daughter.

We do wish to emphasize that we respect a parent's right to make decisions they believe are in the best interest of their child. Therefore, in the event your child will not participate in the NYS assessments, **we ask that you contact your child's building principal via signed letter by Thursday, March 29.** This will allow us time to plan accordingly for the administration of the state tests. Please be rest assured that whatever decision you make on behalf of your child, it will be respected and supported, and that appropriate accommodations will be made for both those students taking the assessments, as well as those who will not be tested.

We value the strong partnership we have with our parents and are grateful for your genuine support of our district. We thank you for your thoughtful consideration regarding this important matter. Please contact us directly with your questions regarding the administration of these assessments.



Dr. Dennis P. O'Hara  
Superintendent of Schools



Dr. Donald B. Murphy  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,  
Instruction and Technology

**What Parents Need to Know:**

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ei/2018/2018-handout-for-parents-3-8-tests.pdf>

**Parent FAQ about the NYS Assessments:**

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/ei/2018/2018-faq-for-parents-3-8-tests.pdf>