

## **Frequently Asked PARCC Questions from Wayne Township Public School Parents**

**Q: How will the district use my child's PARCC results?**

A: The PARCC assessment provides a much more detailed profile of student achievement than what was previously available through NJASK and HSPA tests. This data will be used by administration and teachers in developing instructional programs that will best meet the needs of their students. The PARCC data helps teachers clearly identify areas where students have a strong command of the standards and those areas where proficiency has not yet been attained. Based on our long term analysis of data, moving forward we will begin using PARCC testing scores, along with other criteria, for placement purposes in programs including advanced and remedial programming.

**Q: If my high school child completes the PARCC, will the results appear on my child's transcript?**

A: NO...While the New Jersey Department of Education originally suggested that PARCC scores would be required on transcripts, their position has changed. For now, there is no requirement to place PARCC scores on transcripts.

**Q: How can my child benefit from taking the PARCC?**

A: There are a number of benefits from taking the PARCC for students, parents, and teachers. Overall, the new PARCC performance reports will

provide additional information well beyond what the NJASK and HSPA reports provided in the past. For example, parents and teachers will receive a new and more comprehensive performance report indicating overall student growth based on prior year performance and also in relation to growth when compared to students with similar scores. Taking the PARCC will prepare your child for the future. According to the College Board, the new SAT will be aligned to the Common Core, thus making PARCC a great tool for SAT preparation.

**Q: What will happen if I keep my child home during PARCC testing?**

A: The district is required to schedule your child to take the PARCC during a make-up session in accordance with NJDOE testing requirements.

**Q: How much time will my child spend in the PARCC testing program?**

A: Testing times vary by grade level. The confirmed number of impacted days is as follows:

<b>Level</b>	<b>2015 Testing</b>	<b>2016 Testing</b>	<b>2017 Testing</b>
Elementary	26 to 31 days	14	10
Middle	26	18	8
High	15	15 (less time out of class)	11

**Q: Which grades are assessed through PARCC?**

Students in grades 3-8 will be administered the PARCC assessments every year for ELA and math. High school students enrolled in English 9, 10, or 11 will be administered PARCC ELA assessments. Students in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 who are enrolled in Algebra I, Algebra II, or Geometry will be administered a PARCC math assessment in that subject.

**Q: Are students with disabilities who have IEPs required to take the PARCC or DLM assessments?**

Both the No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 require that all students participate in statewide assessments in the grades and subjects tested. The purpose is to ensure that achievement of the CCSS is measured for all students. The vast majority of students with IEPs will take the PARCC assessments. These students will be able to participate with appropriate accommodations, approved by PARCC, and listed in their IEPs. The PARCC assessments also include a variety of “accessibility features” that all students can access during assessments. Students with the most significant intellectual disabilities who meet specific eligibility criteria will take the DLM assessment instead of the PARCC assessment. The IEP team determines if a student will take the PARCC or the DLM.

**Testing Schedule**

Elementary:

3rd Grade: 4/25, 4/26, 4/28, and 5/1

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 5/2 – 5/5

Middle:

6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 4/25, 4/26, 4/28, 5/1, and 5/2

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 5/3 – 5/9

High School:

11<sup>th</sup> Grade and Algebra 2: 4/3 – 4/7

9<sup>th</sup> & 10 Grade, Algebra 1, and Geometry: 4/11 – 4/13 and 4/24 – 4/26

\*For more detailed information regarding your child's PARCC testing schedule please visit your school's website.