



Sayreville Public Schools
Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

March 13, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Beginning in April, Sayreville, along with every other district in New Jersey, will administer the second-year of the Partnership for the Assessment of College and Career Readiness (PARCC) test in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. Thus, the purpose of this letter is to provide you with accurate information about the PARCC, as well as to clarify any misperceptions about the value of student participation in statewide assessments.

The PARCC test provides a deeper level of information about student progress than previous tests, which makes it a valuable tool to measure student performance. PARCC identifies the areas in each subject where a student needs additional support and where he or she has mastered the content and can be challenged to go deeper into the subject matter, which is invaluable to parents, teachers, students, and school administrators.

As a parent, you can use the information you learn about your child's performance to support your child at home and guide a discussion with his or her teacher(s) to identify what, if any, additional support is necessary in school. Teachers also use the information to guide their instruction and provide more personalized activities and learning opportunities for students. In fact, they will use the assessment data from the PARCC to target areas where improvement is needed in order to be successful in the next grade level. Likewise, in areas where students excel, teachers can provide appropriately challenging work to ensure their students continue to be engaged in school and advance their knowledge.

While no single test can give a complete picture of achievement, when PARCC is combined with student grades and teacher reports, it can provide important information about student progress. With this year's scores, you will be able to compare your child's performance with last year's and track your child's progress over time. In addition, the PARCC test is the best way to ensure that traditionally underserved students—those receiving special education or English as a Second Language services, low-income, and minority students—are not overlooked.

Please visit our website (www.sayrevillek12.net) to access more information about the PARCC, including procedures for parent refusal. However, please understand that when a student does not participate in the annual state test, we all lose out on valuable information. Furthermore, according to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE), if your child is in grades 8 or 9 and refuses to participate in PARCC, it will probably disqualify him/her from accessing alternative graduation testing options and the ability to receive a high school diploma. More information about graduation testing requirements is available here: [NJ DOE Graduation Requirements](#)

We are committed to student achievement, and the PARCC test raises the bar for our students to ensure they are on the path to success and Vision 2030. We are confident that with the quality instruction delivered by our incredibly talented and fiercely dedicated educators, and your support, our students can meet and exceed these expectations. I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher, principal, or me with any additional questions that you may have about the PARCC test or your child's progress.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Labbe, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders