EPPING SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Administrative Unit 14
213 Main Street
Epping, NH 03042

Phone (603) 679-8003
Fax (603) 679-1237
Website www.sau14.org

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Each year, students in grades 3 through 8 participate in the New Hampshire Statewide Assessment System (NH SAS) and PACE for accountability. Each year, students in grade 11 participate in the College Board School Day SAT and NH SAS science assessment. Students who have the most significant cognitive disabilities are eligible to take the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Assessment, as designed in their active individualized education program (IEP). Please click on the link below for the 2019 assessment window. https://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/documents/2018_19_nh_assessment_calendar.pdf

This year, your child will take the following assessments, depending on their grade level:

- NH SAS for English language arts/writing in grade 3 and 8, and mathematics in grades 4 and 8.
- DLM for English language arts/writing and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and 11
- NH SAS for science in grades 5, 8, and 11
- DLM for science in grade 5, 8 and 11
- College Board School Day -SAT English language arts/reading/writing and mathematics grade 11
- PACE Schools – ongoing local and common assessments throughout the year for students in the following grades and subject areas:
    - Grade 3 – math only
    - Grade 4 – ELA only
    - Grades 5, 6 & 7 – both mathematics and English Language Arts

Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 1111(b)(2) and New Hampshire law, RSA 193-C:6 requires each school district in the State to implement a set of high-quality academic assessments that includes, at a minimum, assessments in mathematics, reading/language arts and science to be administered in each of grades 3-8 and not less than once during grades 10-12; and in science not less than once during grades 3-5, grades 6-9, and grades 10-12. Furthermore, ESSA sections 1111(b)(2)(B) require State assessments to be the "same academic assessments used to measure the achievement of all public elementary school and secondary school students in the State," and provide for the participation in such assessments to all students.

State assessments are an important part of a student's core educational program. They provide an evaluation of student mastery of content and skills in various academic areas, serve as one tool for measuring the degree to which students are on track to graduate high school and be college-and career-ready, and help inform future instruction in the classroom. Along with student work on classroom assignments, projects, essays, and local assessments, state assessment results give teachers and you, the parents, important information about where students are on their path toward academic success. If you choose to exempt your student from the state assessment (permitted in RSA 193-C:6), you must submit a form to the school the student attends. Please contact Krista Gulick to receive a copy of the exemption form. Please understand that if you choose to exempt your student from the assessment, no scores or summary of individual student performance, based on the statewide assessment, will be provided to you or your student.

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The testing times for the NH SAS and School Day SAT are as follows:

Grades 3-8	**NH SAS for ELA/Writing/ Mathematics (hours)**	**DLM for ELA/Writing Mathematics (minutes)**
English Language Arts/Reading	2:00	30 - 45 minutes
English Language Arts/Writing	1:30	30 – 45 minutes
Mathematics	2:00	35 – 60 minutes
Grades 5, 8, 11	**NH SAS for Science (hours)**	**DLM for Science (minutes)**
Science	2:00	45 – 135 minutes
Grade 11	**NH School Day SAT (hours)**	**DLM (minutes)**
English Language Arts/Reading/Writing*and Mathematics *Essay is required of all test takers i in the 2019 school year.	4:40	Same as listed above for ELA/Reading, ELA/Writing, Mathematics and Science

Student results for the NH SAS (reading/writing, mathematics and science) are generally available within 10 days upon the student completing the test. [school name] School will send a student's Individual Score Report home as soon as possible after receiving results, and certainly before the end of the school year.

School Day SAT results will be available to students in early May. Students may retrieve their results through their personal SAT account.

DLM scores will be released to districts in early July. Schools will then send home to each family the Individual Score Report for each student who took the DLM assessment as soon as possible upon receiving the results.

Students who participate in PACE for accountability will receive score results from their individual districts in late September or early October.

Parents may access training tests for the NH SAS by going to the portal at https://nh.portal.airast.org/training-tests.stml.

School districts that are using PACE for accountability distribute information about this innovative assessment to parents and other community and school leaders throughout the school year.

If you have any questions related to this assessment administration, you may contact Krista Gulick at kgulick@eppingsd.org Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him/her to do his/her best during this assessment administration.

Sincerely,

Valerie McKenney, CAGS

Valerie McKenney – Superintendent

The mission of the Epping School District is to focus on the potential of every student and engage each to be passionate, confident learners who demonstrate competence and have strength of character to reach their highest aspirations and thoughtfully contribute to a diverse and changing world.