

Richard Montgomery Parents,

Good evening. Attached is the schedule for the May 2018 Maryland High School Assessment (MHSA) administrations of the PARCC (Algebra I & ELA 10), HSA (Government) and Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) exams. While the testing windows open for PARCC on April 23 and HSAs and MISA on May 7, our whole-school testing will occur Monday, May 21 through Thursday, May 24. Each of these days will have a delayed opening to allow for testing. Friday, May 25, will be a normal school day and the **LAST DAY FOR SENIORS!**

During the delayed opening days students who are not taking an assessment do not have to attend school until lunch (*see attached schedule*). Please note that lunch times vary throughout the week. **Buses will run on their normal schedules during testing.** This means students who do not have rides to school will need to catch the bus during their normal pick up. Students who arrive to school early but who do not have an exam will be placed in a study hall until testing is complete each day. Students who have exams should arrive to school by 7:30 a.m. in order to get to their testing locations on time and prepare for their assessments.

In order to prepare for graduation, seniors who need to take an exam will be assessed prior to the May 22 delayed opening week. Seniors who are assigned a senior activity or who need to take a senior exam will do so during the delayed opening week. ESOL students who will be taking the Algebra I PARCC in Spanish will be assessed the week of May 14-18. Students who need to assess in Algebra I and ELA 10 PARCC should report to their ELA 10 exam. They will be assigned to take the Algebra I exam during a make-up day in order to avoid scheduling conflicts. A separate correspondence will be sent to these students and their families.

Students will be notified of their exam dates and locations, as we get closer to testing.

What You Should Know:

- **MISA :**
 - The last year for the Biology HSA was last school year. Students will now take the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA). The criteria for taking the MISA is as follows:
 - Juniors and Seniors who have no Biology HSA score
 - Juniors and Seniors who have a failing Biology HSA score and did NOT re-test last year
 - Sophomores who will have completed their third science course/credit by the end of the school year
 - **NOTE:** Students will not need to pass the MISA this school year. However, they will need to participate in order to meet graduation requirements if they meet the criteria previously. Students may not opt out of testing.
- **NSL:**
 - Students **MUST** pass the NSL exam for graduation with a score of **394**
- **NSL & Biology HSA:**
 - Students may meet graduation requirements with a composite score in **Biology (400)** and **NSL (394)**. A composite score: **400 + 394 = 794**

- The composite score is still applicable this year even if students took the Biology exam in a previous year
- **Algebra 1:**
 - Students **MUST** pass Algebra 1 with a minimum score of **725** for graduation
 - ESOL students levels 1 and 2 may take the Algebra I exam in Spanish
- **English 10:**
 - Students **MUST** pass ELA 10 with a minimum score of **725** for graduation
 - ESOL students in **grades 10-12** and **who are levels 3, 4, or 5** **MUST** take the ELA 10 assessment
- **Algebra & English PARCC:**
 - Students **MAY NOT** opt out of testing
 - Seniors who graduate in 2018 will need to participate if they have not taken one or both exams previously. **NOTE:** Seniors will not need to pass if they graduate this year.
 - Students may meet graduation requirements with a composite score: **725 + 725 = 1450**
- **Practice Tests:**
 - Students may take practice PARCC assessments at www.parcc.pearson.com
 - There is a PARCC practice tool attached to this email
 - MISA – Students will need to access practice tests while in school (see attached)
 - NSL – We currently do not have practice tools for the NSL HSA

If you have questions, please contact me at Mark_Brown@mcpsmd.org

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