

200 BENGAL BOULEVARD BARNEGAT, NEW JERSEY 08005 (609) 660-8900 EXT. 8027 FAX: (609) 698-7378

James Barbiere

Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Tracee DuBeckDistrict Supervisor of
Language Arts/Social Studies 6-12

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October 1, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Barnegat Township School District utilizes a wide array of assessments to measure student achievement and to assist us in designing instruction that meets students' individual needs. The purpose of this letter is to inform families about the nature of these different assessments. We administer testing at various times throughout the year, with the majority of standardized testing taking place during state prescribed windows. Testing date timelines can be seen below.

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Grades K-12

Testing Window: 2/14/2019-4/12/2019*

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 is a secure large-scale English language proficiency assessment administered to Kindergarten through 12th grade students who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs). It is given annually in WIDA Consortium member states to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English.

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams Students enrolled in AP courses, BHS only Testing Window: 5/6/2019-5/17/2019

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program in the United States and Canada created by the College Board which offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. American colleges and universities may grant placement and course credit to students who obtain high scores on the examinations. For more details about specific testing dates, please visit:

https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/exam-dates-and-fees

CogAT Grade 2

Testing Window: Spring, 2019

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) is a group-administered K–12 assessment intended to estimate students' learned reasoning and problem solving abilities through a battery of verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal test items. This test is administered for the purposes of Gifted and Talented Placement only.



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DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS (DLM) (State Assessment) Grades 3-8, 11 (students with IEPs)

Testing Window: 4/3/2019-5/24/2019

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) is the alternate assessment for students with the most significant intellectual disabilities in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The district administers the DLM in the spring to all students in Grades 3-8, and grade 11 who are eligible for the assessment as determined by their IEP team. The assessment is administered via a computer and is administered over the course of several days in the spring. For more information, visit: https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/about/tests#parents

SAGES

Grades 3, 4

Testing Window: Spring, 2019

The SAGES-2 helps identify gifted students and measures both aptitude and achievement. Aptitude is measured via the reasoning subtest. This test is administered for the purposes of Gifted and Talented Placement only.

Science Assessments

Grades 5, 8, 11

Testing Window: 5/6/2019-6/7/2019*

Standardized science assessment will be conducted at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Information regarding this assessment and testing dates will be provided as it becomes available.

National Assessment of Educational Progress

Grade 8

Testing Window/Date: 1/31/2019

Referred to as the "Nation's Report Card" because it compares samples from students in each state, the NAEP is assessed annually in New Jersey. Because New Jersey uniquely reflects the ethnic and socioeconomic demographics of the nation as a whole, the National Center of Education Statistics (NCES) includes New Jersey in each year's NAEP administration. During the 2019 administration, approximately 1 to 2 percent of students in New Jersey will be selected to take one of the NAEP assessments. This past school year, more than 50 New Jersey schools participated in the administration of the NAEP to allow policymakers the opportunity to gauge our nation's fourth, eighth and 12th graders as a whole. This year, Russell O. Brackman Middle School has been selected to complete the NAEP for randomly selected eighth graders to assess in Mathematics and Reading skills.



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PARCC (State Assessment) Grades 3-11

Testing Window: 4/8/2019-5/28/2019*

New Jersey will again be administering the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) in Mathematics and English Language Arts. The PARCC assessments were created to measure student's ability to apply their knowledge of concepts rather than memorizing facts. The PARCC assessments require students to solve problems using mathematical reasoning and to be able to model mathematical principles. In English Language Arts (ELA), students will be required to closely read multiple passages and to write essay responses in literary analysis, research tasks and narrative tasks.

Students will be allowed to utilize the Accessibility Features available to them during testing. Additionally, there will be presentation, response or timing/scheduling accommodations for students with disabilities and English language learners. These are identified through a personal needs profile. For students with IEP's, it would be the child's case manager and for 504 students, this could be the building principal. Current sophomores who did not meet target scores on 2018's Algebra 1 PARCC will re-assess during the following testing window: 11/26/2018 to 1/15/19*.

For more information regarding PARCC testing, visit: https://parcc-assessment.org/

PSAT

Grades 10.11

Testing Window/Date: 10/10/2019

Over three million high school students take the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) each year. Like the SAT, the PSAT is designed to measure the ability to understand and process elements of reading, writing, and mathematics. Students take the PSAT/NMSQT in their junior year to determine National Merit scholarship eligibility and to prepare for the SAT.

WIDA Screener Grades K-12

Testing Window: Fall, 2019

WIDA Screener is an English language proficiency assessment given to incoming students in Grades 1–12 to assist educators in identifying students as English language learners (ELLs). The purpose of this assessment is to help educators make decisions about whether a student is a candidate for English language support services. As a flexible, on-demand language proficiency assessment, WIDA Screener can be administered at any time during the school year, depending on the needs of the district, school, teacher, or student. WIDA Screener is available as either a paper-based or online assessment. Both WIDA Screener Paper and WIDA Screener Online assess the four language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.



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*Testing windows are relayed by the New Jersey Department of Education and do not necessarily reflect the full duration of the test. Barnegat Township School District's testing calendar will be updated according to these guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding these assessments, please contact the Office of Curriculum & Instruction at the information listed above. Thank you!

Respectfully,

Jim Barbiere

R. James Barbiere Director of Curriculum & Instruction Barnegat Township School District

cc: Dr. Brian Latwis, Superintendent of Schools Building Principals District Supervisors