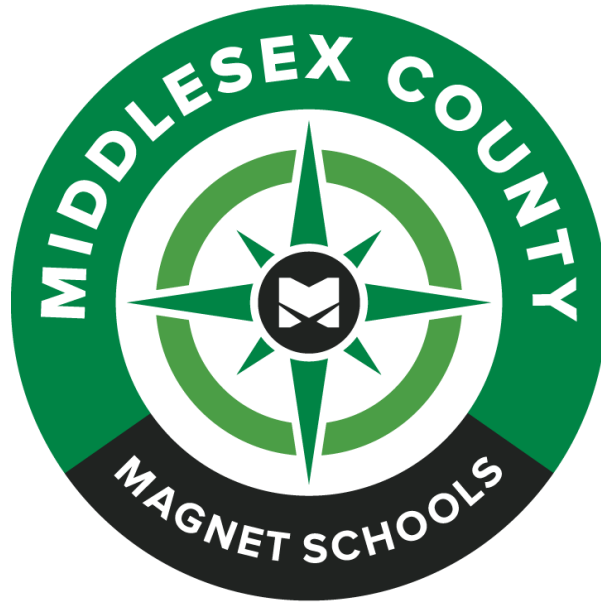


Middlesex County Magnet Schools



**COLLEGE READY.
CAREER READY.
LIFE READY.**

District Assessment Calendar & Plan

2022-2023

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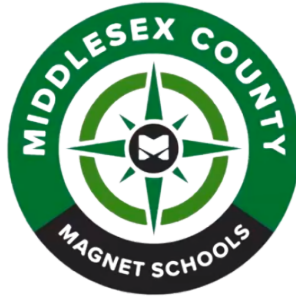
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PURPOSE

The primary purpose of assessment is to improve students' learning and teachers' instructional methodology as both respond to the information based on the data provided. Assessment for learning is an ongoing process that arises out of the interaction between teaching and learning, and is a critical piece of the learning process in order to demonstrate academic growth and also the need for either reteaching as well as relearning when necessary.

Classroom, district, and state assessments are all conducted in order to provide a process to verify student proficiency of the academic standards set forth by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The Middlesex County Magnet Schools District utilizes a variety of assessment techniques to measure student progress towards State standards throughout the school year.

<i>Well-designed and appropriately used assessments provide the following benefits:</i>	<i>Assessment is essential to:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Administrators and teachers can monitor and continuously improve the quality of programs- Teachers map next steps for varied learners and the class as a whole- Teachers gain information about individual students' strengths and weaknesses, and can guide the development of individual students- Teachers can evaluate the effectiveness of their instruction- Students are made aware of their skills in a variety of areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Guide the development of individual students- Identify student needs- Evaluate growth, progress, and performance- Monitor and continuously improve the quality of programs- Inform prospective students and their parents- Provide evidence of accountability- Obtain data necessary for appropriate placement- Identify gifted and talented students- Provide evidence of academic needs



2022-2023 Assessment Calendar

Includes: *NJ Mandated, Alternate Assessments and Special Populations, District Common Assessments, & Other Standardized Assessments*

*Dates may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e. inclement weather)

New Jersey Mandated Assessments								
Assessment	Grade Levels	Subject Areas	Date(s) / Testing Window	Max. Testing Allotment per Session	Results Available	Accommodations	State/ Federal Required	Available Practice Tests
NJSLA	9	ELA & Math	5/1/2023 to 5/26/2023	Two 90-minute units per subject	August	Per IEP/504	State & Federal	NJSLA Practice Tests
NJGPA	11	ELA, Math	3/13/23 to 3/17/23 Make-up: 3/20/23 to 3/24/23	Two 90-minute units, Total time 180 minutes per subject	October	Per IEP/504	State	NJSLA Practice Tests
NJ Science NJSLA - S	11	Science 4 Units	5/1/2023 to 5/26/2023	60 mins	TBD by NJDOE	Per IEP/504	State	NJSLA-S Practice Tests
Start Strong Assessment	9-12	ELA 9-10 Science 9, 12 Alg, Geo, Alg 2	8/31/2022 to 9/30/22	45-60 mins	Oct.	Per IEP/504	State & Federal	Start Strong Practice Tests

[Link to the New Jersey Statewide Assessments Testing Schedule](#)

New Jersey Mandated Assessments - Alternative Assessments for Special Populations

Assessment	Grade Levels	Subject Areas	Date Range	Max. Testing Allotment per Session	Results Available (Subject to Update)	Accommodations	State/ Federal Required	Available Practice Tests
WIDA ACCESS for ELLs	9-12 ESL Students Only	Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing	2/6/23 to 3/3/23	N/A	Jun- Jul	Per IEP/504	State	Sample Items/ Test Practice
NJDOE Portfolio Appeals	Grade 12 only	ELA & Math	N/A	N/A	N/A	Per IEP/504	State	NJDOE Portfolio Appeals

District Common Assessments

Assessment	Grade Levels	Subject Areas	Date Range	Max. Testing Allotment per Session	Results Available (Subject to Update)	Accommodations	Add'l Info
LinkIt Benchmarks Form A, B, C	9-12	ELA / Math	Beginning of Year: 10/31/2022 - 11/4/2022 Middle of Year: 03/6/2023 - 03/10/2023 End of Year: 06/12/2023 - 06/16/2023	40 Minutes	Immediate for Staff	Per IEP/504	LinkIt
SOAR SRI Reading Assessment, Algebra Readiness Link-it! (9th grade only)	9-12	ELA, Math	By September 23, 2022	As directed	Immediate for Staff	Per IEP/504	SRI

Other Standardized Assessments

Assessment	Grade Levels	Subject Areas	Date Range	Max. Testing Allotment per Session	Results Available (Subject to Update)	Accommodations	State/Federal Required	Available Practice Tests
AP Examinations	9-12	AP Course Specific	5/1/2023 to 5/12/2023	Up to 3 and half hours	July-Aug	N/A	N/A	Add'l Info
ASVAB	11-12	Aptitude	TBD	Up to 149 mins.	Within one week	N/A	N/A	Add'l Info & Practice Tests
PSAT/NMSQT	10	ELA/math	As directed by College Board	165 mins.	Jan	Per IEP/504	N/A	Practice Tests
SAT (College Admissions Test)	High School	ELA/math	As directed by College Board	N/A	Add'l Info	Accommodations - College Board Information	N/A	Practice Tests
STAMP	11-12	Spanish-Seal of Bilingual	May-June	160 mins.	Soon after completion	Per IEP/504	N/A	STAMP

ASSESSMENT DESCRIPTIONS & PURPOSE

ACCESS for ELLs

Description/Purpose: ACCESS for ELLs (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners) is a secure online large-scale English language proficiency assessment given to Kindergarten through 12th graders who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs). This assessment is given annually by the district's ESL teachers within an 8-week window to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English.

How results are used: Results are used in combination with other data points and teacher recommendation to determine the need to continue the student's ELL services and allows the staff to determine proficiency needs as students assimilate and understand the English language.

Advanced Placement Exams

Description/Purpose: AP exams are college-level tests administered by The College Board, and are given to students in AP courses at the high school level. These exams are rigorous, and offered in a variety of subjects that give students an opportunity to gain the skills and experience colleges recognize. All students who take AP level classes at Middlesex County

Magnet Schools are highly encouraged to sit for AP exams. Participating in AP exams is considered part of the curriculum of each course.

How results are used: Scores are used by colleges and universities to determine if credit will be granted for what a student has already learned, or allow a student to skip the equivalent course once enrolled in college.

ASVAB

Description/Purpose: The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test (ASVAB) is a standardized test for high school achievement and can be used as both a High School Achievement measurement and note students ability to enter the military if desired. The ASVAB measures students across Science, math, and language.

How results are used: Currently, the NJDOE recognizes passing scores on the ASVAB Reading and ASVAB Math as acceptable alternative tests to meet the state's high school graduation assessment requirement for the Class of 2023-2025; please note that in order to be eligible for this alternate assessment to be counted towards the NJDOE high school graduation requirement, students in these cohorts must sit for all NJSLA tests for which he/she is eligible.

LinkIt Benchmark Assessments

Description/Purpose: In addition to end of unit assessments, teachers will administer three additional assessments as follows: beginning, mid-year, and end of the year assessments.

How results are used: These assessments will measure NJSLS standards proficiency growth and the data from these assessments and provide valuable information for teachers to drive and modify instruction to meet the individualized needs of our students.

NJSLA-Science

Description/Purpose: All students in grade 5, grade 8, and grade 11, must be administered the NJSLA-Science test. The NJSLA-S assessment is a computer-based assessment, and the majority of students should be administered the assessment using a computer. In limited circumstances, based on a need documented in a valid 504 Plan or Individualized Education Program (IEP), students who are unable to use a computer will need to take the assessment using paper and pencil.

How results are used: TBD by the NJDOE (2018-19 Administration was the baseline year for results)

NJDOE Portfolio Appeals*

Description/Purpose: This process is designed for students scheduled to graduate in the Spring of their senior year, and who have not met the assessment graduation requirement as

prescribed by the NJDOE. The portfolio submission process begins in early January of the student's senior year, and includes an Education Proficiency Plan with student transcripts, performance on Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) or NJSLA and/or substitute competency assessments; and, interventions provided to the student to ensure he/she met the graduation requirement. The portfolio appeal also includes Constructed-Response Tasks (CRT) in the subject areas in which the student is deficient: mathematics and/or English language arts/literacy (ELA/L). *Please note: For the Class of 2020 and beyond, students must sit for all NJSLA tests that they are eligible for in order to participate in the portfolio appeals process.*

How results are used: Portfolio submissions are submitted to the NJDOE in late April for review, if found proficient, results are used to meet the assessment graduation requirement for high school seniors in order to graduate and receive their diploma.

***The Class of 2023 has no graduation assessment requirement**

NJSLA-ELA & Math (New Jersey Student Learning Assessment)

Description/Purpose: These assessments are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), and were created to measure students' ability to apply their knowledge of concepts rather than memorizing facts. The NJSLA assessments in English Language Arts require students to closely read multiple passages and to write essay responses in literary analysis, research tasks and narrative tasks. In math, students will solve multi-step math problems that require reasoning and address real-world situations. Students in grades 3 through high school will participate in NJSLA testing beginning in April.

How results are used: The assessments provide teachers information on student progress to inform instruction and provide targeted student support. Please note: On June 5, 2019, the NJDOE approved updated state regulations for the high school graduation assessment requirements in both English language arts (ELA) and mathematics, including NJSLA. For detailed information regarding state requirements for testing, please see page 11 of this document.

NJGPA ELA & Math (New Jersey Student Learning Assessment)

Description/Purpose: These assessments are intended to be the primary Graduation Assessment for all students. It is aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), and was created to measure students' ability to apply their knowledge of concepts rather than memorizing facts. The NJGPA assessments are focused on Grades 9 and 10 ELA standards and Algebra and Geometry Mathematics standards.

How results are used: The assessments provide teachers information on student progress to inform instruction and provide targeted student support. Students must attempt this assessment to be eligible for alternative pathways to graduation assessment.

PSAT

Description/Purpose: The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a standardized test administered by the College Board. The test is composed of four sections: two math sections, critical reading, and writing skills, and is given to all students in grades 9, 10, & 11 attending Middlesex County Magnet Schools.

How results are used: Currently, the NJDOE recognizes passing scores on the PSAT Reading and PSAT Math as acceptable alternative tests to meet the state's high school graduation assessment requirement for the Class of 2023-2025; please note that in order to be eligible for this alternate assessment to be counted towards the NJDOE high school graduation requirement, students in this cohorts must sit for all NJSLA tests for which he/she is eligible.

SOAR Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI)

Description/Purpose: The reading assessment is an individually administered assessment of a child's reading capabilities. It is a tool to be used by instructors to identify a student's reading level, accuracy, fluency, and comprehension. Once levels are identified, teachers can use this information for instructional planning purposes in order to provide reading materials that meet the child's individualized learning needs at his/her appropriate reading level. SOAR SRI assessments are administered by the student's English language arts teacher in the Fall as well as the Winter/Spring.

How results are used: Teachers use results, along with the results of other assessments, to determine whether students are reading on, above, or below grade level. By knowing student levels, teachers can plan for small group, guided reading instruction, including targeted interventions and supplemental support.

Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP)

Description/Purpose: The STAMP test is a web-based test that assesses language proficiency. A STAMP 4S test has four sections – reading, writing, listening and speaking and the results of this test inform test takers and educators about learning progress and program effectiveness. Our District is currently providing this test in Spanish to all Spanish III/IV or AP students in the time-frame of Mid-Junior year to Mid-Senior year in order to qualify students for the NJ Seal of Biliteracy.

How results are used: Teachers use results, along with the results of other assessments, to determine whether students are mastering another language in all domains. By knowing student levels, teachers can plan for small group, guided reading instruction, including targeted interventions and supplemental support and demonstrate proficiency to the State of New Jersey.

PROVISIONS for SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Modification of the standardized testing procedures is allowable under the conditions specified for students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), who are English

Language Learner (ELL) students, or students with a Section 504 Individualized Accommodation Plan. Under certain circumstances, students with an IEP and ELL students may be exempted from certain standardized testing. Accommodation and exemption procedures follow those currently outlined by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and are determined by the IEP team.

COMMUNICATION of ASSESSMENT RESULTS

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) requires that standardized assessment information be communicated to all stakeholders, including parents, teachers, students, Board of Education members, and administrators. All assessment information is communicated to the appropriate stakeholders in a timely and understandable format.

The Middlesex County Magnet School Board of Education is informed annually of the district results of the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) tests. Results are reported for each content area and grade level and include both global and disaggregated data. Parents and community members are made aware of assessment information through the district website, communication home, district and school presentations, and through individual student assessment reports. Teachers and administrators are provided with both individual and aggregate data for instructional planning and school improvement planning purposes.

PARTICIPATION in STATE ASSESSMENT - REQUIREMENTS

It is important to note that there has always been a system for students to demonstrate and meet graduation requirements through an assessment or pathway to graduation throughout New Jersey's forty-year history with a statewide assessment program.

Note: All public school students are required to take the statewide assessments as prescribed by the New Jersey Department of Education.

The NJDOE has provided additional guidance to schools on how to determine proficiencies on substitute assessments and the NJSLA assessments as shown in the chart below for the cohort of Classes of 2022, 2023 and beyond.

Adopted by the NJDOE: June 2019
Updated by the NJDOE: Currently being revised

New Jersey State Assessment Requirements for Graduation

Classes of 2023–2025 High School Graduation Assessment Requirements

Updated July 2022

On Tuesday, July 5, 2022, Governor Murphy signed P.L. 2022, c. 60 (ACS for A-3196/S-2349), which requires the State Board of Education to administer the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA) as a field test for the class of 2023. There is no graduation assessment requirement for any student who is expected to graduate with the class of 2023. Students in the class of 2023 must still meet all the other State and local graduation requirements, including but not limited to credit, curriculum, and attendance requirements. The graduation assessment requirements for the classes of 2024 and 2025 remain in place.

The requirements in this section were adopted by the New Jersey State Board of Education on September 8, 2021 for the classes of 2023–2025.

English Language Arts and Literacy (ELA)

If, after completing the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11, students did not demonstrate proficiency by passing the ELA component, such students may access the following pathways:

- **Second Pathway:** By meeting the designated cut score on a substitute competency test such as other high school-level NJSLA/PARCC assessments, the SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER; or
- **Third Pathway:** By submitting, through the district, a student portfolio appeal to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Mathematics

If, after completing the required New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11, students did not demonstrate proficiency by passing the mathematics component, such students may access the following pathways:

- **Second Pathway:** By meeting the designated cut score on a substitute competency test such as other high school-level NJSLA/PARCC assessments, the SAT, ACT, or ACCUPLACER; or
- **Third Pathway:** By submitting, through the district, a student portfolio appeal to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Information for Students with Disabilities	▼
First Pathway	▼
Second Pathway	▼
Third Pathway	▼

[Link to NJDOE Graduation Assessment Requirements Page](#)

Alternative Assessment List and Scores are currently being updated and approved in the NJ Legislature.

Special Education students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) specify an alternative way to demonstrate proficiencies will continue to follow the graduation requirements set forth in their IEPs.

For more information and a detailed list/passing cut scores of the NJDOE High School

[Graduation Requirements: Assessments and Scoring, please visit this link](#)

DISTRICT TESTING SECURITY PLAN

CHAIN OF COMMAND

- School Test Coordinators (STCs) will be on-site during all testing (regular and make-up).
- The District Test Coordinator (DTC):
 - will be rotating among schools during all testing (regular and make-up).
 - will be available via cell phone at **all** times during the testing period.
 - will visit each testing site on a rotational basis, and as needed.
- Each school **must** designate a backup STC in the event of an absence on a testing day.
 - The back-up STC will be fully trained in all aspects of testing including the proper procedure for distributing and collecting materials, location of test materials, schedule, and location of security plan.
- The Director of Curriculum and Instruction will serve as the back-up DTCs in case of an emergency absence on a testing day by the DTC.
- Daily substitute teachers will **NOT** be used as Test Administrators; only certificated staff who have been trained may serve as a Test Administrator.

TRAINING

- The DTC/STCs will attend state training sessions, and will coordinate materials necessary to conduct training to staff.
- STC's will hold training sessions for Test Administrators (TA) and proctors no later than 1 week prior to testing. All attendees will be required to sign a security agreement form. Those not in attendance will be required to receive one-on-one training prior to testing or they will not be allowed to administer the test; all one-on-one training will be documented.
- The DTC will be responsible for training the building technicians for all computer-based tests.
- Topics to be covered include, but are not limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Testing dates/times➤ Proper start and end to testing sessions➤ How to know that student is in the right session of the test➤ Proper procedure for a student who cannot log into testing session (computer-based testing)➤ Description and proper distribution/collection of testing materials - i.e. Student Authorization Tickets for computer-based testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Proper use of security checklists/ materials tracking forms➤ Test security to include consequences for breaches/irregularities, keeping all materials in order, seating of students➤ Things to ALWAYS do during testing and to NEVER do during testing
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<p>and Student Test Booklets for paper-based testing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rules for accommodations – (i.e. NEVER read a reading passage to a student) ➤ Responsibilities of test administrators and proctors
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DISTRIBUTION/STORAGE OF STATE ASSESSMENT MATERIALS

<p style="text-align: center;">COMPUTER-BASED</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAPER-BASED</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secure materials will be downloaded and printed by the District Test Coordinator or the School Test Coordinator (STC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NJSLA - STC ○ ACCESS for ELLs - DTC ➤ DTC/STC will ensure that these secure materials are locked safely in one place prior to distribution on any given testing day ➤ DTC/STC will verify that all student materials have been successfully downloaded and are secure ➤ STC will notify the DTC immediately of any discrepancies; the DTC will contact the NJDOE/PearsonAccess ➤ All test material must be distributed by the STC, or trained authorized individual, to and from the Test Administrators each day of testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Materials will be delivered to the district office by the testing company ➤ Upon delivery, the DTC will verify that all materials have been received. Any discrepancies will be noted, and the DTC will contact the testing company immediately. ➤ Any paper-based testing materials will be delivered to each school by the DTC, and signed in and stored in a locked cabinet by the STC ➤ All paper-based testing materials must be distributed by the STC, or trained authorized individual, to and from the Test Administrators each day of testing; a Secure Materials Form will be filled out by STC(s) and the TA, these will be collected at the conclusion of the testing window by the DTC

- | | |
|--|--|
| ➤ A Secure Materials Form will be filled out by the STC and the TA, these will be collected at the conclusion of the testing window by the DTC | |
|--|--|

SICK CHILD

- In the event a student becomes ill during testing, the Test Administrator (TA) will take all testing materials from the student; ***the student must also log out of any online testing session.***
- The student will be sent to the nurse with a proctor or hall monitor, and will not return to the testing room for that session.
- Students who become ill during testing should attempt to finish a test they started either that same day or on a scheduled make-up date within the testing window and with a trained Test Administrator (TA).
- Test Administrators (TA) must note the exact place and time in the test where the student stopped, and pause any online testing session; computer-based tests will automatically resume at the exact point where a student exited. Test Administrators must closely monitor make-up testing to ensure students do not return to questions they have already viewed.
- For any student who will not be able to complete a test session during make-ups due to illness, the School Test Coordinator (STC) will document and notify the District Test Coordinator (DTC).

DISRUPTIVE STUDENT

- In the event a student becomes disruptive or is caught cheating during testing, the test administrator will take all testing materials from the student and close the student's test session; ***the student must be logged out of any online session.***
- The student will then be dismissed from the exam room and sent to the office.
- The student will **NOT** return to the testing room during the day's testing session.
- The School Test Coordinator (STC) will call the District Test Coordinator (DTC) immediately to report the incident. The STC submits a Testing Irregularity/Security Breach form to the DTC immediately documenting the situation. The DTC submits the form to the state within two days. The STC and Principal will determine if the student is allowed to return for any additional testing session days.
- The Principal, School Test Coordinator (STC), and/or Test Administrator (TA) may recommend test invalidation. If the state determines invalidation is warranted, the District Test Coordinator (DTC) will process test invalidation.

DRILLS/ALARMS/EVACUATION

- There will be **NO** drills scheduled during the designated testing time frames.
- Students **MAY** continue to test in the event of a Shelter in Place emergency, if appropriate.
- In the event of an alarm, all occupants will need to leave the school building.
- Test Administrators (TA) will immediately note the time remaining for either computer-based or paper-based testing, and direct students to turn their testing devices off and turn all testing materials over on their desks (including test booklets for paper-based testing)
- Staff will line the students up outside the test room and lock the door, and check to ensure testing devices are off/closed, and that there are testing materials on each child's desk before you lock the door and upon return, before students enter the room.
- When testing resumes, the times will be adjusted; inform the students of adjusted times
- Test Administrators (TA) will have to resume students' tests in PearsonAccess for NJSLA before the students can continue with the same test.
- Under all circumstances, safety is the first priority!
- The School Test Coordinator (STC) will document the situation, noting the event, date, and time, students affected, and any other specific details regarding the situation, and immediately report the incident to the District Test Coordinator (DTC) who will contact the NJDOE.
- In the event that students are not permitted re-enter, the District Test Coordinator (DTC) will contact the NJDOE to make alternative testing arrangements.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

- If there is a delayed opening on any day of standardized testing, there will not be any testing sessions.
- If school is closed, or if there is a delayed opening on the testing day, the canceled test session will be made up the next day.
- When school reopens, the scheduled test session for the day that was missed will be administered. School Test Coordinators (STC) and Test Administrators (TA) will need to be very cautious to ensure the correct test session/unit is administered and for NJSLA, that the proper unit is unlocked in PearsonAccessNext.
- **For example:** If school is closed on Tuesday and reopens on Wednesday, the testing session scheduled for administration on Tuesday will be given. Wednesday's session will be administered on Thursday, and so forth.

MAKE-UP TESTING

- Students who are not tested on the regular administration date will participate in make-up testing.
- For computer-based testing, make-up tests may be scheduled for any day after the original unit as long as it falls within the testing window. Every attempt should be made to administer make-up tests to students who were absent during the originally scheduled units.
- For paper-based testing, make-up tests will be scheduled for the NJDOE designated window/day(s). Every attempt should be made to administer make-up tests to students who were absent during the originally scheduled units.
- Units may have different testing times when scheduling make-up tests and those who require make-up testing may not be able to test together, if they are taking different units that have different administration times.
- If a student starts a unit and leaves the testing environment (e.g., due to illness) without finishing that unit, he or she may be allowed to complete that test on a different day. Test Administrators (TA) must note the exact place in the test where the student stopped and the amount of time remaining.
- Students are not allowed to return to any portion of the test they have already completed. They must pick up exactly where they left off.
 - For computer-based testing, tests will automatically resume at the exact point where a student exited. Test Administrators (TA) must closely monitor make-up testing to ensure students do not return to questions they have already viewed.
 - For paper-based testing, Test Administrators (TA) must closely monitor make-up testing to ensure students do not return to questions they have already viewed.
- For make-up testing, it is recommended that the student who missed a unit continues testing with his or her original testing group when he or she returns. The student will then complete the missed unit during make-up testing. Alternatively, if the school is able to schedule the make-up unit before the original testing group moves onto the next unit, the school may allow the student to make up the unit and then continue with his or her original testing group.
- School Testing Coordinators (STC) will advise Test Administrators (TA) that the same test security and administration protocols must be in place for makeup tests as for the tests administered on the regularly scheduled days. When establishing a testing schedule, STCs should identify specific make-up testing day(s).
- Make-up testing days may be used to test students who are affected by technology failures or emergency interruptions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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