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*Inspiring potential. Enriching futures.*

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Dear Parents:

As you may know, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) testing window in our schools opens on April 16. Your child's principal will soon send a letter home detailing the days for testing in your child's particular school.

This is the fourth year for PARCC testing across the state of New Jersey, and we have been mandated to administer this assessment to all students in Grades 3-8. Some parents choose to refuse administration of the test to their child. While the New Jersey Department of Education has not legislated an opt-out program, we recognize a parent's rights to make such decisions on behalf of their child.

Please allow me to share our guidelines on test refusal with you in that case:

- If you wish to refuse administration of the test to your child, we require that a letter be submitted to your child's principal no later than March 29, 2018. Letters submitted last year are not valid for this year's testing period.
- All students will remain in their classrooms.
- Students whose parents have refused PARCC testing will be allowed to read or do alternate assignments. These activities will be determined at the school level by the principal and teacher.
- Alternate activities will align with relevant learning standards.
- Any student who is a disruption to the testing environment will be removed from the classroom.

I do ask that you make an informed decision in this matter. Please review the information presented on this webpage to learn more about the assessment. Please also consider the district-wide impact on reported test results as refusals are factored into local results as non-proficient scores.

I thank you in advance for your partnership in your child's educational success.

Sincerely,

*Sharon A. Vitella, Ed.D.*