

*Roselle Park Public Schools
510 Chestnut Street
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"A High Performing District"

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you may be aware, beginning with the 2014-15 school year, the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers ("PARCC") Assessments replace existing statewide assessments for students in grades 3 through 12. Twelve other states and the District of Columbia are also participating in the PARCC Assessments. The Roselle Park School District has received inquiries regarding whether students may "opt-out" of or refuse to take the PARCC Assessments by electing not to participate or by remaining home from school on testing days.

This correspondence addresses the implications of students attempting to "opt out" of or refusing to take the PARCC Assessments and the advantages of their participation in the PARCC Assessments.

Federal and State law require that all students take State assessments, including the PARCC Assessments. School districts must have a participation rate of ninety-five percent (95%) in each designated subgroup (all public elementary school and secondary school students; economically disadvantaged students; students from major racial and ethnic groups; students with disabilities and students with limited English proficiency) to comply with Federal and State requirements. Failure to satisfy this participation rate jeopardizes the District's eligibility for Federal and State aid.

There are no legal provisions which permit students to "opt-out" of the PARCC Assessments. Any student who refuses to take the PARCC Assessments on the day of testing will be considered disruptive and will have their testing materials collected by the PARCC Administrator. The student's scores will be voided and the student will be removed from the testing environment.

Students who are absent on testing days will be required to attend make-up testing days. Medical documentation of a student's illness will be required to be consistent with District policy, and consequences for unexcused absences will be determined in accordance with District policy.

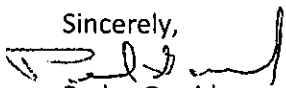
The PARCC Assessments' results will provide key information about individual student progress towards the goal of being college or career-ready. Detailed diagnostic information for each student will be utilized to identify areas of difficulty and will aid future instruction. The PARCC Assessments may also be used to satisfy the State requirements for end-of-course proficiency in Mathematics for our middle school students enrolled in Algebra and Geometry.

The PARCC Assessments do not impact grades or grade point averages.

As a matter of practice, the District includes State-standardized assessment data among the multiple measures used to identify students' academic strengths and areas for growth. Our teachers and administrators are dedicated to preparing all of our students to meet the rigor of our curriculum, which is closely aligned to state standards. This practice enables us to differentiate instruction to best address individual student needs.

For all of these reasons, we expect all of our students to participate in the PARCC Assessments, consistent with Federal and State law and the District's policies.

Sincerely,



Pedro Garrido
Superintendent of Schools