



**A Parent's Guide to Understanding the PARCC Assessments**  
**Freehold Regional High School District**

## What is PARCC?

PARCC is The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. The partnership is a state consortium that works collaboratively to develop high quality assessments that measure whether students are on track to be successful in postsecondary college enrollment and/or careers. New Jersey, like the other PARCC states adopted new, more rigorous academic standards, the New Jersey Learning Standards in May 2016, (<http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/>).

These online computer-based assessments in Mathematics and English/Language Arts Literacy provide students, parents, teachers, and schools better information on whether students are on track in their learning. Presently in high school, students enrolled in the following courses are administered a PARCC assessment: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, English/Language Arts - grade 9, English/Language Arts - grade 10, and English/Language Arts - grade 11. To view practice tests and other parent resources, please visit:

<http://www.parcconline.org/resources/parent-resources>

## Is PARCC related to high school graduation?

The PARCC tests measure student understanding of concepts, reasoning, writing, and problem solving. On August 3, 2016, the State Board of Education approved state regulations for the high school graduation assessments (PARCC) requirements in both English/Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. For detailed regulations, for the Classes of 2017, 2018, and 2019 please visit:

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/parents/GradReq.pdf>

Under state regulations that became effective on September 6, 2016, students **in the graduating cohort of 2020 and 2021 must take the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments in ELA and mathematics** – including the PARCC Algebra I assessment – **and receive a valid score** in order to access the different pathways to meet the ELA and

mathematics high school graduation assessment requirements. **All members of the Class of 2020 must take all PARCC assessments associated with the high school level courses for which they are enrolled and eligible.** For detailed regulations, for the Classes of 2020 and 2021, please visit:

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/parents/GradReq.pdf>

For students in the high school graduating classes 2020 and 2021 who may have completed an Algebra I course before the effective date of the regulations, September 6, 2016, the New Jersey Department of Education is providing your student additional flexibility to meet the mathematics graduation assessment requirements through these three pathways:

- Take or retake the PARCC Algebra I assessment and pass.
- Utilize the New Jersey Department of Education portfolio appeals process provided your child takes the PARCC Geometry assessment and the PARCC Algebra II assessment (if enrolled in an Algebra II course) and receives valid scores.
- Take and pass the PARCC Algebra II or PARCC Geometry assessment.

Your student only needs to complete one of the three pathways in order to meet their high school graduation mathematics assessment requirement.

Should you have any questions, you should contact your student's high school counselor.

## **Are PARCC results utilized by the high school for course placement purposes?**

The Freehold Regional High School District is committed to empowering all students to develop passions in rigorous courses and programs. While assessment data often contributes to that effort by informing recommendations for support and placement, it is the philosophy of the district to not rely upon just one indicator for placement purposes.

We will provide instructional support for students who do not achieve minimal mastery scores on the PARCC assessments.

All students are registered, scheduled, and are expected to participate in the PARCC assessments as required by state and federal regulations.

## **When is PARCC testing for our students?**

For most students in the Freehold Regional High School District, testing will begin March 27, 2017 and conclude by May 19, 2017. The date(s) and time(s) your student tests during the testing window is determined by the high school administration. The general testing schedule for each school is posted on the high school's web site and on the district web site.\*

## **CELL PHONES and ELECTRONIC MOBILE DEVICES in PARCC TEST SESSIONS**

Student use of a cell phone or any electronic mobile device during a PARCC test session is strictly prohibited. No student is to be in possession of a cell phone or any electronic mobile device during a PARCC test session. Possession of a cell phone or any electronic mobile device during a PARCC test session AND/OR use of that device to photograph and/or transmit an image of PARCC test content, will result in the Principal or his/her designee confiscating the cellphone or electronic mobile device and enforcing appropriate disciplinary action as outlined in the district's Student Code of Conduct.

\*A small group of our students will be PARCC testing according to the fall and spring block administration dates. The high school administration will directly contact the parents/guardians of the impacted students.

## Where is the PARCC testing for our students?

Almost all in-district enrolled students will be administered the online computer-based assessments within our school buildings. Students on home-bound instruction will be administered paper-based PARCC assessments as well as students with specific IEP or 504 accommodations for paper-based testing. Students enrolled in an out-of-district placement will be administered the PARCC assessments at their out-of-district school.

## When will the 2017 PARCC scores be available to parents?

The state plans to have PARCC scores available in late June 2017. For more information on score reports, please visit <http://understandthescore.org/>

Translated score reports:

PARCC has translated the sample score reports into 11 different languages, and parents may visit, <http://www.parcconline.org/resources/educator-resources/sample-score-reports>

## New Jersey Department of Education Resource for Parents

**The** New Jersey Department of Education maintains resources to help parents better understand the PARCC assessment system and how it will be used to provide teachers and families information about how students are doing and whether they are on track for their next academic steps. Please visit, <http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/parents/>