



Garden City Public Schools
Garden City Middle School
 98 Cherry Valley Avenue
 Garden City, NY 11530
 (516) 478-3000



Mr. Matthew Samuelson, Principal
 Dr. Daniel Fasano, Assistant Principal
 Mr. William Marr, Assistant Principal

March 7, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The purpose of this letter is to remind families that March marks the start of state testing in grades 3-8. These assessments are given annually to students across New York State in order to measure student achievement.

There are two sessions for both the ELA and Math assessments this year. Additionally, the 2022 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Assessments will continue to be untimed, better enabling them to demonstrate what they know and are able to do. We take a balanced approach with regard to the importance of these assessments.

The dates of these assessments are provided below. The ELA and Math assessments are administered in grades 3 **through** 8 and the Science assessment is administered in grades 4 **and** 8. The assessment dates are as follows:

English Language Arts Grades 6,7,8	Mathematics Grades 6,7,8	Science Grade 8
Tuesday, March 29 th Wednesday, March 30 th	Tuesday, April 26 th Wednesday, April 27 th	Monday, June 6 th
Make-Up Date March 31 st	Make-Up Date April 28 th	Make-Up Date June 7 th

Parents often ask how they might best prepare their children for these exams. Since they cover a year of curriculum and learning, the best preparation relates to promoting students’ readiness to “show what they know”. This means a good night’s rest, a healthy breakfast, and lots of positive reinforcement. Students shouldn’t cram or stay up trying practice questions the night(s) before the tests. We know our students work hard, and will do the best they can—and that is all we can expect.

For those parents wishing to opt their child out of an exam, please notify your counselor of your intentions to opt your child out of the exam. In order to provide appropriate supervision for our students who will not be testing, it is important that we know of parent intentions in advance of the test date. You can notify your counselor by email. The email should include the child’s name, grade, and exam that is being opted out. Students are asked to bring a book to read.

Below you will find New York State Education Department (**NYSED**) **procedures for student electronic devices**. Should you have additional questions, please contact your child’s teacher, guidance counselor or building administration. We are grateful for your support as partners in the learning process.

Sincerely,
 Matthew Samuelson

Electronic Devices - NYSED Procedures

To ensure the integrity of State assessments, please remind your child that all students are prohibited from bringing cell phones and certain other communications and electronic devices into a classroom or location where a State test is being administered. Such devices include, but are not limited to:

- Cell phones
- iPods and MP3 players
- iPads, tablets, and other eReaders
- Laptops, notebooks, or any other personal computing devices
- Cameras, other photographic equipment, and personal scanning devices
- Wearable devices/smart wearables, including smart watches and health wearables with a display
- Headphones, headsets, or in-ear headphones such as earbuds, and
- Any other device capable of recording audio, photographic, or video content, or capable of viewing or playing back such content, or sending/receiving text, audio, or video messages

NY State Education Department policy states that test proctors, test monitors, and school officials are instructed to collect and hold any prohibited electronic devices prior to the start of the test, and also to hold them while the test is being administered, including during restroom visits and break periods.

Admission to the test will be denied to any student who is in possession of a cell phone or other prohibited electronic device and refuses to relinquish it. Furthermore, any students found with a cell phone or one of the prohibited devices will have their exam invalidated, regardless if the device is on/off, or being used/not used.