

Dear Parent/Guardian of a Mercer County Technical School Student in Grades 9-11:

The purpose of this letter is to provide parents/guardians with relevant State testing information as it relates to the upcoming NJSLA (New Jersey Student Learning Assessment). The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has directed New Jersey public school districts to schedule all students in Grades 9-11 to take the appropriate NJSLA assessments. Any student taking English I, English II, English III, Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II is scheduled for an NJSLA exam. Students in grade 11 will also sit for the NJSLA Science exam at a later date.

The NJSLA is computer-based and aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in ELA and math. The NJSLA will evaluate a student’s progress toward college and career readiness/preparedness. The NJSLA is also designed to provide teachers with information to modify instruction and provide student support.

Test dates will be planned for the appropriate PARCC test based on the following schedule.

NJSLA 2018-2019 Grades 9-11: H.S.A

Test Dates:

NJSLA ELA & Math
 NJSLA Make-up

April 8, 2019 – April 9, 2019
 April 10, 2019

NJSLA 2018-2019 Grades 9-11: STEM & Culinary

Test Dates:

NJSLA ELA & Math
 NJSLA Make-up

April 15, 2019 – April 16, 2019
 April 17, 2019

NJSLA Test Session Times			
	Unit 1	Unit 2	Total Time
ELA Grades 9-11	90 min	90 min	3 Hours
Algebra I	90 min	90 min	3 Hours
Geometry	90 min	90 min	3 Hours
Algebra II	90 min	90 min	3 Hours

NJSLA Science: All 11th grade students will take the NJSLA assessment for Science on May 6th and 7th at their designated campus. Make-Up test dates will be May 8th.

For more information on NJSLA testing, visit our website at www.mcts.edu. On the district home page, click on CURRENT STUDENTS and scroll down to NJSLA ASSESSMENTS to gain more insight on NJSLA testing, sample questions and practice tests, and NJSLA resources including accommodations and accessibility options available to students. Also available at <https://nj.mypearsonsupport.com/>.

Follow <https://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/parents/GradReq.pdf> to view the high school state and federal requirements for assessments for the classes of 2020, 2021, and 2022.

During NJSLA testing, please ensure your child gets plenty of rest, eats a hearty breakfast and comes to school prepared to focus on the assessments. Attached to this letter are some guidelines students can follow before and during testing. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Doug Shunk

Supervisor of Secondary Education
District Test Coordinator

Getting ready for the NJSLA:

Take practice tests beforehand- Available through our website

Follow tutorials on using the TestNav application

Talk to your teachers about test content

Get restful sleep the night before

Have breakfast

Arrive to school on time

Test taking strategies:

Read all directions thoroughly

Eliminate any answers you know are wrong

Work through the questions you know first

Pace yourself, do not spend too much time on a question you are unsure of

Go back and check your work

Test security procedures:

Be sure to follow all directions as they are read aloud at the beginning of the testing session

Cell phones will be collected before test and distributed back to students at the end of the testing period

All other electronic devices should be turned off and away from the testing area

Communicating with other students during testing is prohibited

Any food or drink is prohibited during testing