

PARENTAL WITHDRAWAL FROM MANDATED STATE-WIDE TESTING

The Board of Education has the responsibility to establish policies that are consistent with the law of the State of New Jersey. These laws require the Board of Education to administer all statewide student assessments as dictated by the Department of Education. The statewide assessments are a graduation requirement for high school students and a valuable indicator of student progress. The Superintendent should widely disseminate information regarding the assessments. For the 2014 – 2015 school year, the required statewide assessments for students in grades three through twelve are entitled: Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (“PARCC Assessments”).

PARCC is a consortium of states that collaboratively developed a common set of computer-based assessments, aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), that measure if students are working at expected levels and are on track for post-secondary success.

It is the policy of the Board of Education to provide students the greatest opportunity to succeed at meeting the state learning standards in the Common Core State Standards and Core Curriculum Content Standards. The Board of Education recognizes that parents have the right to make decisions for their children. The Board of Education believes that it is their responsibility to meet parental decisions with educationally appropriate responses that are not punitive in nature and do not place students in a debate on social issues.

All policies, including the Board of Education’s “Attendance Absences and Excuses” Policy File Code 5113, shall remain in full force and effect during New Jersey Department of Education mandated testing.

A parent or guardian, who chooses to withdraw a student from any state-required assessment, must advise the chief school administrator, in writing, of their decision to withdraw the student from the examination.

Students withdrawn from testing, with parental approval and written notice will be placed in an alternate educational environment. The Board of Education believes that it is their responsibility to meet parental decisions with educationally appropriate responses to be determined by the Superintendent and implemented by the schools. All education responses will be designed to not be punitive in nature and to not place students in a debate on social issues. This may include, but is not limited to, a quiet supervised study period.

By withdrawing from the statewide examinations, parents and guardians acknowledge that their refusal may negatively impact the student regarding the completion of statewide examinations as required by the Department of Education and appeals to any determinations from the withdrawals are beyond the jurisdiction of the Board of Education and must be made directly to the Department of Education.

Legal References: NCLB, 20 NCLB, 20 U.S.C.A. §6301d
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 as amended by
Continuing Appropriates Act of 2011, 125. 163
American COMPETES Act (20 U.S.C.S. §6311
N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1

Possible

Cross References: *5113 Attendance, absences, and excuses

Date: February 19, 2015