



Somerdale Public School District

301 Grace Street
Somerdale, New Jersey 08083



Mr. Cleve Bryan – Superintendent/Principal
Mr. Robert Ford – Vice Principal
(856) 783-6261 (856) 783-2607 FAX

February 14, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Somerdale Park School will be administering the state assessment to students during the week of May 14. The state assessment is used to measure student performance in achieving the state's, "Student Learning Standards" and to compare individual students with their peers throughout the district, the state, and nationwide. Please know that your child's test results are considered when determining proficiency level and appropriate academic placement. Overall district test participation rates and test performance may impact educational funding and programs the district is able to provide to students. Student performance on state testing is a primary factor reflected on the annual NJ School Performance Report that is required to be posted on the district's website and is viewed by the public.

The state assessment requires students to utilize learned, age appropriate, problem solving and higher order thinking skills. Skills needed to be successful in school, the workplace, and to develop solutions to problems. Standardized testing helps build student familiarity and confidence with taking other achievement tests or placement tests such as the SAT, ACT, PSAT, ASFAB, Advanced Placement Test, and/or future certification exams.

For further information on the current state assessment, please visit the following website:
<http://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/PARCCFAQ.pdf>

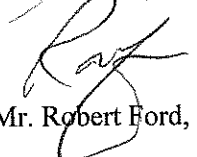
If after reading this letter and visiting the above website you are opting to have your child not participate in the state assessment at Somerdale Park School during the week of May 14, please proceed to take the following steps:

1. Complete the attached form with rationale supporting why you are choosing to have your child not participate in the state assessment.
2. Sign and return the form to the school no later than March 29, 2018.
3. Contact Mrs. Nancy Strassle at NStrassle@Somerdale-park.org to schedule an appointment with Mr. Cleve Bryan, Superintendent/Principal, to further discuss your concerns.

If all of the steps listed above are not completed prior to March 29, 2018, your child will be participating in this year's state assessment. Thank you for your time and attention to this letter.

Sincerely,


Mr. Cleve Bryan, Interim Superintendent/Principal


Mr. Robert Ford, Vice Principal



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Re: State Assessment 2017-2018

Dear Parent or Guardian: By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you do not want your son or daughter to take the 2018 New Jersey mandated state assessment at Somerdale Park School. Additionally, you recognize that these days are state mandated for attendance purposes and refusal to participate in State Assessment may impact the academic level placement of your student when he/she transitions to a secondary school.

Students not taking the State Assessment will be provided an alternative educational space to complete instructional assignments unrelated to the state assessment. **ALL FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018.**

For more information, please contact Somerdale Park School Vice-Principal and Testing Coordinator, Mr. Robert Ford at rford@somerdale-park.org

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Rationale for choosing to have student not participate on the 2017-2018 state assessment:
