

Hoosic Valley Central School District

CENTRAL OFFICES
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Amy V. Goodell
Superintendent of Schools

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March 8, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The administration of the New York State English Language Arts and Math assessments for grades 3-8, will be March 28-30 and May 2-4, 2017. While we respect the wishes of parents who request their child not take the state assessments, we believe participation helps us to assess and improve our instructional program, as well as comply with state and federal regulations.

This year's test will include the changes implemented last year:

- **Fewer Test Questions:** Assessments will be shorter with fewer questions in ELA and Math.
- **Untimed Assessments:** Students will have as much time as they need to complete assessments at their own pace.
- **Greater Teacher Involvement:** The state has increased the number of teachers who create and review assessments.
- **Assessment results will not be used to evaluate teachers or principals.** A moratorium is in place until 2019 while the state develops a new or revised evaluation system.

It is against our recommendation to opt out of the NYS assessments. But if you wish to do otherwise, you should send a letter in writing to your child's classroom teacher by March 20th. This will allow us to make arrangements for supervision of students who are not participating in state assessments.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or your child's principal.

Sincerely,

Amy V. Goodell
Superintendent of Schools

