



CATSKILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

State Assessment Information

March 21st, 2018

WHAT ARE THE NYS ASSESSMENTS?

- Students in grades sixth through eighth grade will take the NYS ELA and Mathematics Assessment.
- Eighth grade students will take the NYS Science Assessment.



STATE TEST INFORMATION: DATES

- **ELA**
 - Wednesday, April 11th & Thursday, April 12th
- **Math**
 - Tuesday, May 1st & Wednesday, May 2nd
- **Science Grade 8**
 - Performance Test
 - Beginning Wednesday, May 23
 - Written Test
 - Monday, June 4th

Spring Recess March 30th-April 6th



FEWER TEST SESSIONS

- The 2018 Grades 3–8 ELA and Math Tests have been reduced from three test sessions per subject to only two sessions per subject this year, meaning each subject will have two days of testing instead of three.
- With fewer test sessions, each test will have substantially fewer questions than in recent years, lessening test fatigue for students and better enabling them to demonstrate what they know and are able to do.



UNTIMED TESTS

- The 2018 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Tests will be untimed.
- This means that as long as students are working productively, they will have as much time as they need to complete each test session, within the confines of the regular school day.
- If students are still working, but most of their class has completed the test, they may be moved to another room to finish.



TEST QUESTIONS REVIEWED AND WRITTEN BY NEW YORK STATE TEACHERS

- Teachers from across the State serve on committees to write, evaluate and select questions for the tests. Our own Ms. Chirkis and Ms. Cozzaglio worked on the 6th grade Math assessment.
- In all, hundreds of New York State educators were involved in creating and reviewing questions for the 2018 assessments and selecting the questions for the test forms.




PROVIDING RESULTS FOR TEACHERS AND IMPROVED RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

- Like last year, the New York State Education Department plans to have instructional reports returned to teachers by the end of the school year and to release at least 75% of the test questions again.
- As in 2017, the 2018 Score Reports for parents will feature more information about what students should know and be able to do at each grade level.



COMMON CONCERNS WE HEAR

- “My Child should not be defined by a test.”
 - At CMS we agree. That is why we use this assessment as a piece in the overall puzzle. This assessment allows us to gauge their understanding of the curriculum and how we are doing teaching it. We consider it a valuable resource.
 - My child has test anxiety?
 - One of the best way for students to work through this is to get used to the test taking environment. They must take and pass Regents exams in HS to graduate.
 - I don't believe in Common Core
 - All curriculum K-12 is aligned to the common core standards. This includes those that end in a Regents exams. Common Core just refers to the idea that every student in NYS is learning the same curriculum at every level.
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**Please contact the
main office if you have
any additional
questions or concerns.**

518-821-5665

