



Sayreville Public Schools
Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

March 24, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Beginning in April, Sayreville, along with every other district in New Jersey, will administer the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) test in English language arts (ELA), mathematics and science. Thus, the purpose of this letter is to provide you with accurate information about the NJSLA, as well as to clarify any misperceptions about the value of student participation in statewide assessments.

The NJSLA test provides a deeper level of information about student progress than previous tests, which makes it a valuable tool to measure student performance. NJSLA identifies the areas in each subject where a student needs additional support and where he or she has mastered the content and can be challenged to go deeper into the subject matter, which is invaluable to parents, teachers, students, and school administrators.

As a parent, you can use the information you learn about your child's performance to support your child at home and guide a discussion with his or her teacher(s) to identify what, if any, additional support is necessary in school. Teachers also use the information to guide their instruction and provide more personalized activities and learning opportunities for students. In fact, they will use the assessment data from the NJSLA to target areas where improvement is needed in order for students to be successful in the next grade level. Likewise, in areas where students excel, teachers can provide appropriately challenging work to ensure that they continue to be engaged in school and advance their knowledge.

While no single test can give a complete picture of achievement, when NJSLA is combined with student grades and teacher reports, it can provide important information about student progress. With this year's scores, you will be able to compare your child's performance with last year's and track your child's progress over time. In addition, the NJSLA test is the best way to ensure that traditionally underserved students—those receiving special education or English as a Second Language services, low-income, and minority students—are not overlooked.

Please visit our website (www.sayrevillek12.net) to access more information about the NJSLA, including procedures for parent refusal. However, please understand that when a student does not participate in the annual state test, we all lose out on valuable information. Furthermore, according to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE), if your child is in grades 8, 9, or 10 and refuses to participate in NJSLA, it may disqualify him/her from accessing alternative graduation testing options and the ability to receive a high school diploma. More information about graduation testing requirements is available here: [NJDOE Graduation Requirements](#)

As you know, in Sayreville we are committed to promoting the success of all our students. Thus, the NJSLA test raises the bar for them in order to ensure that they are on the path to success. We are confident that with the quality instruction delivered by our incredibly talented and fiercely dedicated educators; along with your support, our students can meet and exceed these expectations. I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher, principal, or me with any additional questions that you may have about the NJSLA test or your child's progress.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Labbe, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders