



DELSEA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. Piera Gravenor, *Superintendent* • Dr. Melissa Williams, *Assistant Superintendent* • Joseph Collins, *Business Administrator*
Dr. Anner Thompson, *Director of Special Services/CST* • Paul Berardelli, *HS Principal* • Jill Bryfogle, *MS Principal*

March, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to notify you of the high school administration dates for the 2017 PARCC exam. The Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is a group of states, including New Jersey, that have come together to develop high-quality student assessments aligned with the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts/literacy, and mathematics.

The PARCC assessments will be administered to students in grades 9-11 on April 10th-12th.

The testing days will be **full-day** sessions for high school students. Seniors not going on the senior trip are required to come to school on testing days. They will have the opportunity to complete homework or classwork in the morning and then attend their regularly scheduled classes in the afternoon. Note, all seniors will be back on the final day of testing and the same schedule will apply. Additionally, seniors enrolled in Algebra II, or English 2 or 3 are required to sit for the PARCC administration.

All test takers and parents/guardians should review the following information prior to PARCC testing:

- Get a good night's rest prior to testing**
- Bring their chrome book to school fully charged**
- Bring headphones and/or ear buds for testing each day**
- Students may bring a book to read for leisure, but it may not be on an electronic device**
- Students will be directed to put backpacks, coats, purses in their lockers each morning**
- Students are not to have a cellphone, iPod, smart watch, or any electronic device in the testing room, other than their chrome book. Failure to comply with this will result in a voided test.**

To assist parents and the community in understanding the assessment, I have included an FAQ sheet on the reverse side of this letter. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact your child's guidance counselor.

Respectfully,

Melissa M. Pilitowski

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Director of High School Guidance
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PARCC FAQ

Is PARCC a graduation requirement?

The Classes of 2017, 2018, and 2019 – Students graduating as members of the Classes of 2017, 2018 and 2019 can meet graduation assessment requirements through any of these three pathways: (1) Achieving passing scores on high-level PARCC assessments; (2) Achieving certain scores on alternative assessments such as the SAT, ACT, or Accuplacer; or (3) The submission by the district of a student portfolio through the Department's portfolio appeals process. (Special Education students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) specify an alternative way to demonstrate proficiencies will continue to follow the graduation requirements set forth in their IEPs.)

The Class of 2020 – Students in the Class of 2020 can demonstrate graduation assessment proficiency through the same three pathways as those in the Classes of 2017 through 2019, **provided that students in the Class of 2020 take ALL PARCC assessments associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible** and receive valid scores, as of the September 6, 2016 effective date the amendments were adopted by the State Board of Education.

The Class of 2021 and Beyond – Starting with the Class of 2021, students will only have two pathways to meet the high school graduation assessments requirements: (1) Pass the ELA 10 and Algebra 1 assessments; or (2) The submission by the district of a student portfolio through the Department's portfolio appeals process, assuming the student has taken ALL PARCC assessments associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible and received valid scores.

How are the schools preparing our students academically?

All curricula are aligned with the Common Core Standards/NJSLS. PARCC testing mirrors the high quality work students are already doing in our classrooms throughout the year.

Will PARCC scores be on the high school transcript?

PARCC scores will be a part of the permanent record file but will not be mailed to college/universities unless requested by the school and the parent/guardian.

When will the 2017 PARCC scores be available to school districts?

Student score reports are expected to arrive during the summer months.

Will the PARCC assessment be used for academic placement for the 2017-2018 school year?

Delsea will continue to use a series of multiple measures which provide the data needed to appropriately place students without the need to solely rely on standardized test results.

Delsea Regional High School PARCC Testing Schedule:

April 10th: Math Unit 1 and Math Unit 2

April 11th: Math Unit 3 and ELA Unit 1

April 12th: ELA Unit 2 and ELA Unit 3