



Rochelle Park School District

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Dear School Community Members,

Yesterday, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) shared a communication from the United States Department of Education (USED), recognizing that “we are in the midst of a pandemic that requires real flexibility,” and informed the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) that the administration of Start Strong assessments in fall 2021 will satisfy the federal statewide assessment requirement to administer general assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science for the 2020-2021 school year. Therefore, ***there will be no spring 2021 administration of the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA)***. This flexibility shall apply only to the 2020-2021 school year.

The USED is **still requiring** the NJDOE to administer **ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS for ELLs or Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)**. Therefore, the administration of the **ACCESS/Alternate ACCESS for ELLs and DLM assessments will continue**.

The NJDOE April 14, 2021 Broadcast provided the following details:

[Assessment Administration Update for 2020-2021: New Jersey Student Learning Assessments \(NJSLA\) and the Start Strong Fall 2021](#)

- The **spring 2021 administration of NJSLA ELA, mathematics, and science assessments is cancelled**.
- The NJDOE **will administer the Start Strong assessments in fall 2021** to all students in English language arts (ELA) grades 4-10, Mathematics grades 4-8, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II, and in Science grades 6, 9, and 12. *This flexibility is only being offered for the 2020-2021 school year due to the impact of COVID-19.*
- Start Strong assessments will be administered **in person from September 13, 2021 through October 22, 2021**.

With regard to an update on the status of the building’s restoration, please know the reconstruction continues to be going well. At this time the plans remain on schedule for completion with a return to all classrooms on the first floor by the end of this month. The first floor is looking great and we are growing increasingly excited about the completion.

Wishing you and your family an enjoyable and healthy spring season.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sue DeNobile, Superintendent