



Millburn Township Public Schools
Office of Curriculum and Instruction

April 2018

Dear Families of Current 8th Graders, 9th Graders & 10th Graders:

This letter is follow up to my [March 2018 correspondence](#) regarding this year's PARCC testing. I write to reinforce the necessity for students in the Class of 2020 (current sophomores,) the Class of 2021 (current freshmen,) and any current 8th grader who is taking Algebra I to participate in this year's assessments.

While there is much state-level talk about the possible sunseting of the PARCC assessments, at this time we are governed by N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1 which outlines the role state-level assessments play in graduation requirements. The New Jersey Department of Education's testing landscape differs for students by grade-level. Therefore, please note:

- Current sophomores must take and pass the ELA PARCC Grade 9 or 10 or 11. Additionally, current sophomores must take and pass the Math PARCC Algebra I or Algebra II or Geometry. There are two other additional pathways that students may take in order to satisfy the state's assessment requirement for HS graduation. However, these additional pathways are only available if a student takes all PARCC tests associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible and receive valid scores.
- Current freshmen must take and pass the ELA PARCC 10 and the Math PARCC Algebra I in order to satisfy the state's assessment requirement for HS graduation. There are considerably fewer alternate pathways for the Class of 2021 and beyond. Additionally, the second pathway is only available if a student takes all PARCC tests associated with the high-school level courses for which they were eligible and receive valid scores.
- Current 8th graders enrolled in Algebra I must take and pass the PARCC in order to satisfy their eventual HS graduation requirements. **They may not refuse the Algebra I PARCC test** and substitute the Geometry PARCC in 9th grade as proof they've met the state's requirements for graduation.

While it is important to note that students who refuse to take the PARCC assessment are deemed "non-proficient" which impacts the District and our standing in rankings that include the NJ DOE's School Performance Reports, it is more important that families are aware of the importance of students' HS graduation requirements.

To wit, I've included more information, as provided by the State, including HS graduation requirements and pathways charted-out by graduating class, [here](#). I encourage you to review the link along with the District's internal [testing calendar](#).

Thank you,
Kyle C. Arlington
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction