Outlining the PARCC Field Test

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What Is PARCC?

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is:

- A consortium of 18 states and the District of Columbia

- Developed next-generation math and English ELA tests for students in **Grades 3 through 11**

- PARCC tests will:
  - be computer-based
  - be aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)
  - measure higher-order skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, and communicating effectively
  - be administered in the spring of the 2014–15 school year
  - be field tested in March 2014 and May 2014

The PARCC Assessments

Performance Based Assessments (PBA)	End of Year Assessments (EOY)
75% of School Year:	90% of School Year:
• 3 ELA Sessions	• 2 ELA Sessions
• 2 Math Sessions	• 2 Math Sessions

Total number of sessions/student = 9

PARCC Field Test Spring 2014

The primary purposes of the PARCC Field Test are to:
- Evaluate the quality of items and tasks so that PARCC can build assessment forms for the 2014-15 school year

- Pilot assessment administration procedures and timing

- Research test accessibility features and accommodations

- Give schools and districts the opportunity to experience the administration of PARCC assessments

The Field Test <u>will not</u> produce any results for districts, schools, or individual students.

- *Additional guidance is available at www.parcconline.org/field-test*

PARCC Field Test, Cont'd

- PARCC states will field test the Performance-Based Assessment (PBA) and End-of-Year (EOY) assessment components in both ELA and Math.

- Most students participating in the PARCC Field Test will take one component (PBA *or* EOY).

- A small percentage of students will take both components (PBA *and* EOY) in one content area only ELA or Math).

- **No students will take both** the ELA and the Math assessments for the Field Test.

PARCC Field Test Schedule

Schools can test at any time during the Field Test testing windows:

Component	Testing Window
Performance- Based Assessments (PBAs)	**March 24 to April 11***
End of Year Assessments (EOYs)	May 5 to June 6

In New Jersey:
- Students who are field testing PARCC in March and/or May will still take NJASK as required.

- In 2015, students will take PARCC and NJASK Science 4 and 8 as well as the NJBCT

Secaucus Schools will be closed on April 10 and 11.
Testing must conclude by April 9.

Technology Requirements

- Schools selected to participate in the computer-based field tests had to meet PARCC's technical requirements for devices and bandwidth as determined by the NJDoE through NJTRAX (http://njdigitallearning.org/)
- In inventories completed by the IT Staff in April 2013 and November 2013, Secaucus met and exceeded the requirements in:
  - Computer Hardware Needed for Field Test
  - School Bandwidth for Field Testing

Secaucus' Test Sessions

School Name	Grade	Subject Area	No. of Classes	Component	When?	Sessions
SHS	10	ELA	2	EOY	May	2
CLARENDON	6	ELA	2	PBA	March	3
HUBER	5	ELA	2	PBA & EOY	March and May	5
SMS	8	Math	2	PBA & EOY	March and May	4

- ✓ All tests will be administered online.
- ✓ Class selection was done at random by school administration.
- ✓ Testing session schedule is determined collaboratively by the school's principal, school testing coordinator and the identified teachers.

Testing Accommodations

- Testing accommodations are meant to remove barriers that may exist due to a student's learning style or disability.

- Students should have had experience using an accommodation in the classroom (during routine instruction and/or test taking) prior to using it on a PARCC test.

Features for All Students

- Tool, support, scaffold, or preference that is built into the assessment system that can be activated by any student, at his or her own discretion.

- Universal Design features expected to benefit a diverse array of students and are available to all.

- Provided onscreen, stored on a toolbar, or are accessible through a menu or control panel, as needed.

- During the assessment, students can choose which accessibility features they need for specific items. Examples include: audio amplification, highlighting, pop-up glossary.

Features Identified in Advance

- Available to all students (i.e., not limited to students with IEPs or 504 plans, or ELLs), but will be selected and "turned on" by school-based educators prior to the assessment, based on each student's Personal Needs Profile (PNP).

- Based on each student's individual needs, a PNP is created for the student to ensure that he or she receives appropriate access without the distraction of other tools and features that are not required by the student.

- Although school-based educators will enable specific accessibility features for students, the student will decide whether or not to use the feature.

Accommodations Available for Students

Accommodations for students with disabilities taking the PARCC can include:

Type of Accommodation	Example
Presentation	Text-to-speech
Response	Speech-to-text
Timing and Scheduling	Extended time Small group Separate location
Setting	Larger Font
Unique	Braille, special keyboard
Emergency	Student with a broken arm needs a typist or scribe

PBA Testing Begins March 24 and Concludes April 9

EOY Testing Begins May 5 and Concludes June 6.