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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers

Elizabeth Public Schools remains committed to providing a high-quality education that prepares its students for college and career success.

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE) recently announced that they have applied to the United States Department of Education (USDE) for waivers of requirements of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) as they pertain to state assessments. In the announcement, they advised that school districts should begin to plan to administer the required state assessments in accordance with the revised schedule below so we can move forward if the USDE does not reply to the request in time or if the request is denied.

Elizabeth Public Schools is required by federal regulations to assess its students with the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) or Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics in grades 3-8 and at least once in high school, and in Science in grades 5, 8, and 11. Additionally, all students in grades K-12 who qualify for supports as English Language Learners (ELLs) are required to take the *Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs)*.

The following chart provides the testing dates set by the New Jersey Department of Education for the required state assessments. As additional information is released, we will provide updates. You may also visit our district website www.epsnj.org for continuous updates on assessment information.

New Jersey Department of Education Assessments

Assessment	Who will Test	Dates	Administration
ACCESS for ELLs	All English Learners in Grades K-12	April 5 – June 11, 2021	In-Person only
DLM	Alternate to NJSLA if identified in an IEP	April 5 – June 11, 2021	In-Person only
NJSLA	ELA, Math Grades 3-9 Science Grades 5, 8, 11	May 3 – June 11, 2021	In-Person with Remote option

Best Regards,

Amy L. Gil

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