



FORT EDWARD UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

220 BROADWAY
FORT EDWARD, NEW YORK 12828
(518) 747-4529

April 11, 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This spring, our school will administer the NYS Grades 3-8 assessment in ELA (April 16 & 17), Mathematics (April 30 & May 1), and the NYS Grade 5 and 8 Science assessment (May 14). Our goal is to have 95% participation. Last year, our participation rate was approximately 70%.

How is the school preparing your child to take these assessments? Our goal is to create an environment with minimal stress surrounding these assessments for your child.

- Pep rally
- Breakfast
- Watching engaging videos about test preparation

Why do we give these tests?

- The results help guide instruction for future grade levels.
- The results help us determine levels of intervention for children, if necessary.
- Prepares students for high-stakes tests, which are required for graduation in high school.

Other important things to know:

- These tests are untimed.
- You will receive a score report in the fall, detailing how your child performed in each area of the tests, and what you can do to best support your child's learning.
- The school will receive test scores over the summer, allowing us to make curriculum pacing and intervention decisions.
- These tests are considered "low stakes", meaning that they are not attached to a child's academic average. Your child will not receive higher or lower grades on their report card based upon these tests.
- Unlike in previous years, the scores from these exams are not a factor in teacher evaluations. They are not incorporated into the APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review) for Fort Edward UFSD.

I strongly encourage all students to take these assessments. More information can be found at <https://www.nysed.gov/state-assessment/parent-resources>. If you have questions, please feel free to call or email me at erusso@fortedward.org.

Respectfully,

Erin Russo
PK-12 Principal