



Choosing Excellence Every Day

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March 31, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the computer-based B.E.S.T. ELA and grade-level Math or B.E.S.T. Algebra 1/B.E.S.T. Geometry End-of-Course assessments; if in seventh grade, the Civics EOC; and if in eighth grade, the 8th grade Science or Biology according to the following schedule. B.E.S.T. Algebra 1, B.E.S.T. Geometry, Biology 1, Civics, and U.S. History EOC assessments are each administered in one 160-minute session, but students may continue working up to the length of a typical school day, if needed.

FAST ELA	6-8	Tuesday, May 2, 2023
FAST Math	6-8	Thursday, May 4, 2023
Algebra & Geometry EOC	7/8	Thursday, May 4, 2023
Civics EOC	7	Thursday, May 11, 2023
Science	8	Tuesday, May 16, 2023
Biology EOC	8	Tuesday, May 16, 2023

The Grade 8 Statewide Science Assessment consists of two 80-minute paper-based test sessions administered in one day. If you or your student would like to gain familiarity with the item types and response formats your student will see on his or her Statewide Science Assessment, sample questions and answer keys are available at <https://fsassessments.org/families.html> under the "Paper-Based Practice Tests" tab.

If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available at <https://fsassessments.org/families.html>.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them**. If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculator Policy**—For B.E.S.T. Algebra 1, Geometry EOC and 7-8 Math assessments, approved handheld scientific calculators may be used. For 6th grade Math, a four-function calculator is available. For Biology 1 EOC, a handheld four-function calculator may be used. Four-function calculators will be provided to students for Grade 8 Science at the time of testing
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: "I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated." Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking the box in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.

"The Leon County School District does not discriminate against any person on the basis of sex (including transgender status, gender nonconforming, and gender identity), marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, color, pregnancy, disability, military status, or genetic information."



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- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items and passages) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment), he or she **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, please contact Susan Griggs at 850-414-2666. For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at FLFAST.org.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,



Jason Koerner

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