

# Fletcher W. Judson Elementary School

124 Hamilton Lane  
Watertown, CT 06795-2693

**Kristin Raymond**  
Principal

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April 9, 2021

Dear Judson Grade 5 Families,

We strive to ensure that your child—and all Watertown students—receive an education that prepares them to thrive in a global economy and in civic life. That’s why Connecticut has adopted challenging academic standards, including the [Connecticut Core Standards](#) in mathematics and language arts, as well as the [Next Generation Science Standards](#) (NGSS). We expect that all our students will attain a firm grounding in mathematics, language arts, and science by the time they graduate from high school, preparing them to succeed in the future. Our teachers and administrators are committed to working together to support students with excellent instruction and resources to meet these new expectations.

With these statewide learning goals, Connecticut needs ways to measure student progress. This can be achieved through summative assessments. Assessments are like academic checkups; they help teachers and parents see where students are, compared with where they need to be. The results can reveal subject areas where a student is excelling and subject areas where a student needs extra help. The state requires assessments in the subject areas of English language arts and mathematics using the Smarter Balanced Assessments at the elementary and middle school levels, and in Grade 11 using the SAT, which can also be used as a college entrance exam. The state also requires assessments in science in Grades 5, 8, and 11, using the NGSS Assessments.

**The NGSS Assessments for Grade 5 will take place at Judson on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.** It is important that students attend school and be on time. Once testing begins, students will not be permitted to go to the classrooms if they are late. They will remain in the office until the test session is complete (per CT testing rules and guidelines). We also ask that your child get plenty of rest the night before the test and that they eat a good breakfast. **Also, ear buds or headphones are required for the test so please have your child bring them in.**

To find resources specifically for parents and guardians, including ways to help your child with the standards at home, please visit <https://www.nextgenscience.org>.

Sincerely,  
*Kristin Raymond*  
Principal

*Success begins when you make the RIGHT choice!  
Be Safe...Be Responsible...Be Respectful*