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Rob Lewis, Superintendent/Special Ed Director
Christopher Ulrich, 6-12 Principal
Nora Groft, Athletic Director

Richard Osborn, K-5 Principal/iSucceed School
Jenna Brinkman, Business Manager
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Dear Parent or Guardian:

From April 12th to May 4th students in grades 3-8 will take the state assessment in (a) English Language Arts and (b) Mathematics. Students in grades 5 and 8 will take the state assessment in (c) Science. See the attached schedule for further details and starting dates for each assessment. The purpose of this letter is to help in your understanding of the assessment, as well as provide a few ideas for improving your child's preparedness.

The assessments measure student achievement of our state's standards in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. In addition, score reports will provide information on student performance in the following areas:

- English: Reading, writing, listening, & research
- Math: Concepts and procedures; problem-solving and modeling/data analysis; & communicating reasoning
- Science: physical science, life science, and earth & space science

The assessments are given through an online computer application and are unique in the way they adapt to a student's question responses. This is important as it provides questions that are appropriate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude towards testing. These assessments are not timed; however, we provide the following times as estimates of assessment duration: (a) English – 3.5 hours, (b) Math – 3 hours and (c) Science – 1.5 hours.

Please remind your student in grades 6-8 & to bring their headphones and iPad with a full charge and the power cord.

Student grades will not be impacted by their performance on this assessment however the assessment does serve as a way for the school to analyze how well we are helping students meet the standards. Shortly after the testing period is complete, you will receive a report showing your child's scores.

There is no need to study in preparation for the assessments. We do, however, ask that students try their best and get plenty of rest the night before testing. It is important for students to come to school on test days. Assessment are required, therefore making up a missed assessment leads to less instructional time and a loss of important learning opportunities.

This testing is very important for your child, and the Northwestern Area School District. Thank you for supporting your child and our school during this assessment period. Please contact us if you have any questions. We know that Northwestern's students will help us to understand the great strides our students have taken in meeting our school and state standards in learning!

Sincerely,

K-5 School Principal
Richard Osborn

6-12 School Principal
Christopher Ulrich

South Dakota State Assessments

Middle School

April 12, 2023

6th Math Non-Performance: 10:00-12:30. ELA Non-Performance: 1:00-3:10

7th Math Non-Performance: 10:00-12:30. ELA Non-Performance: 1:00-3:10

8th Math Non-Performance: 10:00-12:30. ELA Non-Performance: 1:00-3:10

April 19, 2023

6th ELA Performance: 10:00-12:30. Math Performance: 1:00-2:40

7th ELA Performance: 10:00-12:30. Math Performance: 1:00-2:40

8th ELA Performance: 10:00-12:30. Math Performance 1:00-2:40

May 4, 2023: 9:30-11:40- 8th grade Science.

Make up Days April 14,21, 28. May 5th 8th and 9th.

Elementary

April 17, 2023: ELA Non-Performance: Morning

April 18, 2023: Math Non-Performance: Morning

April 19, 2023: ELA Performance: Morning

April 20, 2023: Math Performance: Morning

April 27th, 2023: 5th Grade science: Morning

Make up days-April 21, 28. May 5th, 8th, and 9th.