



PALMYRA BOARD OF EDUCATION
PALMYRA, NJ 08065

Brian J. McBride
Superintendent of Schools

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William R. Blatchley
*Business Administrator/
 Board Secretary*

March 14, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Beginning in April, the Palmyra School District will be participating in the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). Students in Grades 3-8, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, English 9, English 10, and English 11 are required to participate in this assessment.

New Jersey state law requires that the Palmyra School District participate and administer the PARCC assessment. Please be aware that the school district cannot grant permission to a parent for their child to “opt-out” of PARCC. However, if you would like to refuse participation for your child in the PARCC assessment, we request that you send notification to your child’s building principal by March 31, 2016.

In order to plan alternate schedules and maximize instructional time, school administration will need to know how many students are participating in PARCC. If you refused to have your student take the PARCC last year, notification by March 31, 2016 is still required. Please be aware that absences will count against your child’s attendance record.

Scores for the PARCC can be used to satisfy the NJ Department of Education requirement to demonstrate proficiency in language arts and mathematics for high school graduation. Students graduating with the classes of 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 are required to demonstrate proficiency by meeting one of the criteria listed below:

English Language Arts	Mathematics
PARCC ELA Grade 9 \geq 750 (Level 4) or	PARCC Algebra I \geq 750 (Level 4) or
PARCC ELA Grade 10 \geq 750 (Level 4) or	PARCC Geometry \geq 725 (Level 3) or
PARCC ELA Grade 11 \geq 725 (Level 3) or	PARCC Algebra II \geq 725 (Level 3) or
SAT Reading* \geq 400 or	SAT Math* \geq 400 or
ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading \geq 16 or	ACT or ACT PLAN Math \geq 16 or
Accuplacer Write Placer \geq 6 or	Accuplacer Elementary Algebra \geq 76 or
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading** \geq 40 or	PSAT 10 Math or PSAT/NMSQR** \geq 40 or
ACT Aspire Reading \geq 422 or	ACT Aspire Math \geq 422 or
ASVAB-AFQT Composite \geq 31 or	ASVAB-AFQT Composite \geq 31 or
Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal	Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

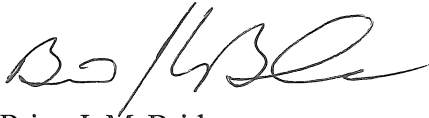
Additional information on the PARCC assessment dates and parent resources can be found using the following links:

<http://www.palmyraschools.com>

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/>

Thank you for your continued support of the Palmyra School District and please feel free to contact your child's guidance counselor or building principal for further questions about the PARCC assessment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. J. McBride". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "M".

Brian J. McBride
Superintendent of Schools