



PALMYRA BOARD OF EDUCATION
PALMYRA, NJ 08065

Brian J. McBride
Superintendent of Schools

Administrative Office
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William R. Blatchley
*Business Administrator/
Board Secretary*

December 22, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your patience as the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE) reviewed PARCC test results and determined test ratings. As you will recall, PARCC was administered last spring replacing the New Jersey ASK for grades 3 through 8, and the High School HSPA exam. This new test was designed to measure student achievement in relation to the Common Core state standards.

Attached please find your child's results in English Language/Literacy (ELA) and/or Mathematics. Your child's performance level, as well as the school and school district's performance levels may look lower this year. Please note, however, that due to the change in state tests these scores cannot be compared to previous test results. Instead, they are setting a new baseline from which progress shall be measured over the next several years.

In your child's individual reports, each subject is broken down into categories of skills and content to identify where your student is doing well or where he or she needs some additional help. To further assist you in understanding your child's test results, the NJ Department of Education has provided the following resources:

- Video explaining the score reports: <http://www.understandthescore.org/>
- Additional resources for parents: <http://www.bealearninghero.org/>
- Information about the PARCC assessment: <http://www.parcconline.org/resources/parent-resources>
- New Jersey specific information: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/>

Thank you for your continued support of our Palmyra Schools and feel free to contact your child's School Principal if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Brian J. McBride, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools



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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE) has recently released student and school PARCC test results. As you will recall, PARCC was administered last spring replacing the New Jersey ASK for grades 3 through 8, and the High School HSPA exam. This new test was designed to measure student achievement as well as provide an indication of his or her academic success.

We do not have a PARCC report for your review as your child chose not to participate or did not participate fully enough to record a valid score. To help you and your child learn what other parents and students in the district received to review PARCC results, we are providing you with a “mock up” of a PARCC score report.

In looking over the “mock up” PARCC report, you will notice that each subject is broken down into categories of skills and content to identify where a student is doing well and where he or she needs some additional help. As you can see, the PARCC report provides more detailed information than from past state tests to help you support your child and better work with his or her teacher to address particular instructional needs.

This school year, PARCC has been significantly reduced as to time in taking the test and in the items on the test. The change is in response to parent and school district concerns related to these matters. With these changes in place we urge you to review the score report information that you have received and hope that you encourage your child to take PARCC this coming spring and do his or her best.

Thank you for your continued support of our Palmyra Schools and feel free to contact your child’s School Principal if you have questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Brian J. McBride, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools