



GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

P.O. Box 410
406 North 2nd Street
Groton, SD 57445
Fax: (605) 397-8453

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

P.O. Box 410
810 North 1st Street
Groton, SD 57445
Fax: (605) 397-2344

Groton Area School

Board

Dr. Steve Smith, President
Martin Weismantel, VP
Tigh Fliehs
Deb Gengerke
Travis Harder
Kara Pharis
Grant Rix

Superintendent

Joseph J. Schwan
(605) 397-2351 ext. 1003
Joe.Schwan@k12.sd.us

High School Principal

Kiersten Sombke
(605) 397-8381 ext. 1004
Kiersten.Sombke@k12.sd.us

Elementary Principal

Brett Schwan
(605) 397-2317
Brett.Schwan@k12.sd.us

Business Manager

Michael J. Weber
(605) 397-2351 ext. 1008
Mike.Weber@k12.sd.us

Athletic Director

Brian Dolan
(605) 397-8381 ext. 1068
Brian.Dolan@k12.sd.us

Opportunity Coordinator

Jodi Schwan
(605) 397-8381 ext. 1015
Jodi.Schwan@k12.sd.us

K-12 School Counselor

Ashley Seeklander
(605) 397-2317
Ashley.Seeklander@k12.sd.us

Technology Coordinator

Aaron Helvig
(605) 397-8381 ext. 1025
Aaron.Helvig@k12.sd.us

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Dear Parent or Guardian:

On April 6-7, April 14-15, and April 22, students in grade 11 will take the state assessment in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. The purpose of this letter is to help in your understanding of the assessment, as well as providing a few ideas for improving your child's preparedness.

The assessments measure student achievement in relation to our state 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: English – 4 hours, Math – 3.5 hours, Science – 1 hour.

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. For 11th grade students, the results for English language arts and math are also used for two purposes: (a) to qualify students in the fall of their senior year to alert them that they have already met criteria for guaranteed general acceptance to into the state's six public universities and four technical institutes (Proactive Admissions), and (b) to determine a student's eligibility to further prepare for postsecondary coursework (College Readiness Courses). More information regarding Proactive Admissions and College Readiness Coursework can be found on [SDMyLife](#).

There is no need for students 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. Assessments 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, Groton Area High School, and the Groton 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 Groton Area's students will help us to understand the great strides our students have taken in meeting our school and state standards in learning!

Sincerely,

Ms. Ashley Seeklander, K-12 School Counselor/District Testing Coordinator
Mrs. Kiersten Sombke, MS/HS Principal
Mr. Joe Schwan, Superintendent



Schedule by Grade

Grade 11

ELA – April 14th and April 15th

Math – April 6th and April 7th

Grade 11- 1st and 2nd hour only

Science – April 22nd