

POLICY

Board of Education Bernards Township

File Code: M2622
PUPIL ASSESSMENT

The Board of Education requires all pupils leaving grades four, eight, and eleven to demonstrate competency in challenging subject matter including, but not limited to, language arts literacy, mathematics, science, social studies (civics and geography), health, physical education, and fine, practical, and performing arts. The Board will comply with law and rules of the State Board of Education in the assessment of pupil achievement and needs in order to determine the progress of pupils toward mastering established course proficiencies and to assist pupils towards attainment of the goals of our District.

ASSESSMENTS

The Superintendent shall develop and present to the Board annually for its approval an assessment program that complies with rules of the State Board of Education and includes assessment tests that meet State criteria. As a minimum, the program shall include the following assessments:

1. Throughout the year, our district will conduct preschool identification ('Child Find') of children age three, four and five who reside within the district who may be disabled.
2. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:8-4.6(a)1.ii., 75 percent of fourth grade pupils in our District shall score at or above the minimum level of proficiency established by the State Board of Education on the New Jersey Elementary School Proficiency Assessment (ESPA), in subjects according to the state's phase-in schedule.
3. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:8-4.6(a)2.i., eighth grade pupils in our District shall be assessed using the State-developed Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA), in subjects according to the state's phase-in schedule. Proficiency levels and performance standards will be established by the State Board of Education.
4. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:8-4.6(a)3.i., eleventh grade pupils in our District shall be assessed using the State-developed High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA), in subjects according to the state's phase-in schedule. Proficiency levels and performance standards will be established by the State Board of Education.

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5. Twelfth grade pupils shall be assessed for proficiency in the courses of study required for a high school diploma, in accordance with policy number 5460.

In addition, we will administer assessments developed by our District that are in compliance with procedures approved by the Superintendent.

RECORDS

Information regarding student assessment will be maintained, housed, and disseminated according to Board policy number 8330.

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

Rosters of pupil performance for tests developed by the Department of Education shall be distributed to the Superintendent of Schools in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:39-1.4(a)3. Our District will make available to the public the number of pupils tested and the percentage of pupils at or above the established levels of pupil proficiency for each school and for the District, by grade level and test in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:39-1.4(a)5.

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

Parents or legal guardians shall be informed of our District assessment program and of any special tests that are to be administered to their children.

PROGRAM EXCEPTIONS

A pupil with an educational disability must meet all State and local high school graduation requirements in order to receive a State-endorsed high school diploma unless exempted in his/her individualized education program. The pupil classified as educationally disabled shall be required to participate in our District pupil assessment program, unless specifically exempted from participation by the pupil's individualized education program.

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A pupil with limited English proficiency who enters New Jersey schools in grade nine or later may demonstrate attainment of minimum levels of proficiency and be eligible for a state endorsed high school diploma through the Special Review Assessment (SRA) in their native language provided that they take the Maculitis Test and attain a passing level of 133 raw score points.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-6.2

N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.5; 6:8-2.1 et seq.;
6:8-4.6; 6:39-1.1 et seq.

ADOPTED: July 29, 2002