

Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP)

For more information please visit Michigan Department of Education: www.michigan.gov/mde/

March 30, 2017

Dear Parents,

This spring students will be taking the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP). The testing window for administering these tests begins Monday, April 10th. This year, students will be taking these tests on-line as opposed to the traditional paper/pencil method. We will be giving the ELA tests during your child's language arts class and the math tests during your child's math class. The social studies and science tests will be given over a two hour time block (see chart below).

Students in grades 6 - 8 will take the English language arts and the mathematics assessments, which will include both open-ended response and multiple choice questions. The science test will be administered to 7th graders and the social studies test will be given to 8th graders. The science and social studies assessments will only include multiple choice questions. Students will be taking Computer Adaptive Tests (CAT) and a Performance Task (PT) on the ELA and math tests. In the Computer Adaptive Tests, students may be given different questions based on the way they answer a question. The Performance Task is a test that requires students to apply knowledge and use problem solving skills to a given scenario.

Here is the proposed schedule that we will follow for M-Step testing:

M-STEP Testing Schedule: Grade 8

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------|---|--|---|---|
| April 10 | April 11 ELA Day I (CAT) in LA class | April 12 ELA Day II (CAT) in LA class | April 13 ELA Day III (CAT) in LA class | April 14 No School |
| April 17 | April 18 ELA Day I (PT) in LA class | April 19 ELA Day II (PT) in LA class | April 20 SS Tests Zero Hour, Advisory & 2nd Hour | April 21 |
| April 24 | April 25 Math Day I (CAT) in Math class | April 26 Math Day II (CAT) in Math class | April 27 Math Day I (PT) in Math class | April 28 Math Day II (PT) in Math class |

M-STEP Testing Schedule: Grades 6 & 7

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| May 1 | May 2 ELA Day I (CAT) in LA class | May 3 ELA Day II (CAT) in LA class | May 4 Science Tests (7th grade) Zero Hour, Advisory and 2nd Hour | May 5 |
| May 8 | May 9 Math Day I (CAT) in Math class | May 10 Math Day II (CAT) in Math class | May 11 Math Day I (PT) in Math class (7th grade) | May 12 Math Day II (PT) in Math class (7th grade) |

Please review with your child the following test-taking tips.

Before the Test:

- *Develop a positive attitude. Tell yourself, "I will do my best on this test."
- *Get a good night's sleep the night before the test.
- *Get up early enough to avoid hurrying to get ready for school.
- *Eat a healthy breakfast.

During the Test:

- *Relax and stay calm.
- *Listen carefully to the directions the teacher gives.
- *Ask questions if you don't understand what to do.
- *Read each question carefully. Find the key words. Try to figure out what the question is really asking.
- *Read the entire question and look at all the answer choices.
- *Use strategies you learned in class to figure out the answer.
- *Take your time picking the best answer.

Sincerely,

Mr. Denison, Principal & Mrs. Mrs. Turfe

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