## Washington Township School District

"Making a Difference"

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April 7, 2016

Dear Parents & Guardians,

New Jersey's Department of Education is once again requiring all students in grades 3-11 participate in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). It is important to note the district's position for testing is that all students must participate in the PARCC Assessment, as mandated by the state.

This year, there is only one testing window for the PARCC Assessment during April and May. The district administrative team has worked to develop a testing schedule, which minimizes the disruption to the regular school day. Students will be testing simultaneously using various devices, including desktops, laptops, and iPads in the classroom, computer lab, or Media Center, which has allowed us to develop a more compacted testing schedule, as follows:

**Grades 3 & 4**: April 25<sup>th</sup> – April 29<sup>th</sup> **Grades 5 & 6**: May 2<sup>nd</sup> – May 6<sup>th</sup> **Makeup Testing**: May 9<sup>th</sup> – May 12<sup>th</sup>

Your child's participation on the PARCC Assessment is very important for state reporting purposes. Data from the assessment will provide valuable feedback on your child's literacy and mathematical skills. At this time, PARCC data will not be used for class placements. However, students in the Class of 2020 will need to take the PARCC Assessment to graduate high school. Therefore, it is essential our students take part in the assessments each year, to become familiar with them in order to ensure their success in future required assessments.

We strongly encourage all students to participate in the PARCC Assessment as required by the state. If you have any questions regarding the PARCC Assessment, please contact your building principal.

Sincerely,

Keith T. Neuhs, Superintendent Michael Neu, Principal Jessica Garcia, Principal Washington Township Schools Port Colden School Brass Castle School