



Englewood Public School District
Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Dr. Laura Scamardella
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April 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This spring, your child will participate in New Jersey's statewide assessments, the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments – Adaptive (NJSLA-A) for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, and the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments – Science (NJSLA-S).

These state-required assessments are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) and provide important information about how well students are learning grade-level skills and knowledge. While the assessments may look different this year, they continue to measure what students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level.

Testing Schedule

The New Jersey Department of Education has established the following testing window:

- **State Testing Window:** April 27 – May 22, 2026

Our district will administer the assessments on the following dates:

Assessment	Test Administration Dates Grades 3-8	Test Administration Dates Grades 9-12
NJSLA-A ELA – Reading	April 27, 2026	April 27, 2026 (Grade 9 Only)
NJSLA-A ELA – Writing	April 28, 2026	April 28, 2026 (Grade 9 Only)
NJSLA-A Math	April 29, 2026	May 1, 2026
NJSLA-Science	April 30 – May 1, 2026 (Grades 5 & 8 Only)	April 29 – 30, 2026 (Grade 11 Only)
NJSLA Make Ups	May 4 – 15, 2026	May 4 – 15, 2026

Purpose of Statewide Assessments

Students take different kinds of tests during the school year, and each type of test serves a different purpose. New Jersey's statewide assessments are one important way to show families and communities how well students, schools, and districts are meeting the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, which describe what students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

These results provide schools with valuable insight into students' progress and help educators refine instruction when needed to strengthen learning. They allow teachers and school leaders to see how students grow from year to year, and to ensure all students have access to strong, grade-level instruction. This information also helps districts confirm their curriculum matches the state standards. Overall, statewide tests give families and schools an understanding of how students are growing and where support may be needed so every child can succeed.



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About the NJSLA-A ELA and Math Tests

This spring, for the first time, statewide tests in English and math NJSLA-A will be computer-adaptive. As your child answers questions, the test adjusts in real time. If a question is answered correctly, the next one may be slightly more challenging. If your child struggles, the test may provide a question that is less difficult. This helps the assessment “zero in” on your child’s understanding more precisely.

Every student receives a different mix of questions, but all questions are reviewed together to measure the same grade-level standards and skills. Adaptive tests do not change what students are expected to know; they simply help measure those skills more accurately.

NJSLA-A consists of three (3) units; ELA-Reading, ELA-Writing, and Mathematics.

NJSLA-A Unit Testing Times

Unit	Session 1 Testing Time (minutes)	Session 2 Testing Time (minutes)	Total Test Time (minutes)
ELA-Reading	75	75	150
ELA-Writing	90	N/A	90
Mathematics	75	75	150

About the Science Test (NJSLA-S)

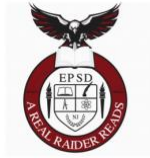
The science assessment is a fixed-form test, meaning all students receive the same questions. While the test will now appear in the same online platform as the ELA and math assessments, the format and content remain the same as last year.

Unit Testing Times (NJSLA – Science)

Science Grade Level	Units (total number)	Testing Time per Unit (minutes)	Total Test Time (minutes)
Grades 5 and 8	4	45	180
Grade 11	4	60	240

Testing the Test

In fall 2025 to ensure a smooth transition to this new type of test, students in grades 4–12 took part in a field test for the adaptive ELA and math assessments. A field test is a way for the New Jersey Department of Education to try out new test questions before they officially count toward student scores. The test designers, including educator committees, review these results to make sure the test questions are clear, fair, and appropriate for students and that they produce helpful data to families, schools, and the public. This process helps keep statewide assessments accurate and aligned with what students are expected to learn.



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Testing Expectations

To maintain the security and integrity of testing:

- **Cell phones, smartwatches, Bluetooth headphones, tablets, and all other personal electronic devices are strictly prohibited in the testing room**
- Devices must be turned in prior to testing
- Students who do not comply will not be permitted to test and may face disciplinary action
- Bookbags, coats, hooded sweatshirts and any personal belongings are not permitted in testing rooms.

Any student found in possession of a cell phone or other personal technology device during the assessment will be escorted out of the testing room; the test will be voided and invalidated, and the student will be subject to suspension. In addition, any confiscated device will be handled in accordance with district and school policy.

For additional information about these assessments, please visit the NJDOE Assessments webpage at nj.gov/education/assessment/adaptive for a series of pamphlets focused on providing a quick overview of the new assessments. You may also wish to visit the Students & Families page on New Jersey Assessments Portal at nj.portal.cambiumast.com and the Parent and Student Resources page on the New Jersey Science Assessments Resource Center at nj.mymisupport.com.

If you have any questions about the upcoming assessments, please feel free to contact your child's school counselor or building administrator.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting your child's learning.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laura Scamardella

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