

GEORGIA MILESTONES *END OF GRADE (EOG)* & *END OF COURSE (EOC)* ASSESSMENTS WILL BEGIN AFTER SPRING BREAK!

Each spring, middle school students throughout Georgia take standardized assessments to see how well they have mastered the standards for their grade level. Our sixth, seventh and eighth grade students will take their *End of Grade (EOG) Assessments* throughout the month of April, beginning after we return from Spring Break.

Sixth grade students will take their three *EOG Assessments* - - - **ELA Section 1 (the Writing part), ELA Section 2 & 3, and Math** - - - each on a different day, the week we get back to school.

Seventh grade students will take their three *EOG Assessments* - - - **ELA Section 1 (the Writing part), ELA Section 2 & 3, and Math** - - - each also on a different day, beginning the week of April 17th.

Eighth grade students will take four *EOG Assessments* - - - **ELA Section 1 (the Writing part), ELA Section 2 & 3, Math, and Social Studies** - - - each on a different day, beginning the week of April 24th. Eighth Graders will also take an *End of Course (EOC) Assessment* for their 8th Grade Physical Science course (because it is a course for high school credit, and students take *EOC Assessments* for high school courses) the first two days of the week beginning on May 8th. Eighth graders who take Accelerated Math with Ms. Arends will also take an *End of Course (EOC) Assessment* on Monday, May 1st.

See the day-by-day testing schedule below for the month of April and the first part of May.

All of our sixth, seventh and eighth grade students will take their *End of Grade (EOG)* and *End of Course (EOC) Assessments* on computers this year. For the last two years, the state has asked school systems to increase the percentage of students taking their *Milestones Assessments* online each year, with a goal of 100% of students taking their assessments online within the next couple of years. With our smaller enrollment this year and the plentiful number of Chromebooks we have at DeSana, we are able to test all of our students online this year. Students have taken both formative and summative class assessments on the Chromebooks throughout this year, as our teachers have created them online for students to take. In addition, our students in each grade level will take a short practice assessment - - - similar to the format they will see on the *EOG and EOC Assessments* - - - during one of their class periods next week (see Practice Assessment Schedule below also). We feel quite confident that our students will be sufficiently prepared to take their *End of Grade* and *End of Course Assessments* online, using the chrome books, successfully, and that they will be ready to do their very best on these standardized tests when they return from Spring Break.

If you would like for young Dragon to have additional practice taking the assessment online, a website, called ***Experience Online Testing Georgia***, has been established to provide an opportunity for students to become familiar with the online testing platform. The website can be found at the link <http://gaexperienceonline.com/> and can be accessed at home. *Experience Online Testing Georgia* is available 7 days a week from 7:00am-10:00pm and does not require a log-in. It is intended to allow students to familiarize themselves with the online platform prior to testing.

Please know that at DeSana we view these *Milestone Assessments* as a snapshot of a student's knowledge of the standards on a few days of testing, and that these standardized assessments do not completely define who our young Dragons are as students and as young men and women, and the

concepts and skills they have mastered this year. These assessments are one piece of the totality of evidence that we look at, at the end of the year, to see how successful a student has been in their academic achievement for the year. Yes, most definitely, we want our students to try their hardest and do their best on these assessments, but you will not hear us put undue pressure on our students during this assessment time. Being at school on their assessment days, taking the assessments seriously, and doing their best is what we ask of each student here at DeSana. And that is the message we will share with them.

We are not quite certain just yet when we will receive students' *EOG and EOC Assessment* results. But as soon as we have a better idea of when we will receive them, we will certainly pass that information along to you.

Here is the day-by-day testing schedule for the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) Assessments*:

- **Wednesday** **April 12th** **6th Grade** **ELA Section 1 (the Writing part)**
- **Thursday** **April 13th** **6th Grade** **ELA Section 2 & 3**
- **Friday** **April 14th** **6th Grade** **Math Section**
- **Monday** **April 17th** **6th Grade** **Make up testing**

- **Tuesday** **April 18th** **7th Grade** **ELA Section 1 (the Writing part)**
- **Wednesday** **April 19th** **7th Grade** **ELA Section 2 & 3**
- **Thursday** **April 20th** **7th Grade** **Math Section**
- **Friday** **April 21st** **7th Grade** **Make up testing**

- **Monday** **April 24th** **8th Grade** **ELA Section 1 (the Writing part)**
- **Tuesday** **April 25th** **8th Grade** **ELA Section 2 & 3**
- **Wednesday** **April 26th** **8th Grade** **Math Section**
- **Thursday** **April 27th** **8th Grade** **Make up testing**
- **Friday** **April 28th** **8th Grade** **Social Studies Section**
- **Monday** **May 1st** **8th Grade** **Make up testing**

- **Monday** **May 1st** **8th Grade** **EOC – Accelerated Math Assessment (Only a few)**
- **Tuesday** **May 2nd** **8th Grade** **EOC – Accelerated Math Assessment Make ups**

- **Monday** **May 8th** **8th Grade** **EOC – Physical Science Assessment (All 8th Graders)**
- **Tuesday** **May 9th** **8th Grade** **EOC – Physical Science Assessment (All 8th Graders)**
- **Wednesday** **May 10th** **8th Grade** **EOC – Physical Science Assessment Make ups**

Here is the Practice Assessment Schedule for next week - - - Week of March 20th:

- **Wednesday** **March 22nd** **During 1st Period** **7th Grade Practice Assessment**
- **Thursday** **March 23rd** **During 3rd Period** **6th Grade Practice Assessment**
- **Friday** **March 24th** **During 3rd Period** **8th Grade Practice Assessment**

During the weeks/days students are not taking assessments, they will follow a pretty normal schedule (a few minor adjustments), going to all of their classes. On the days they *are* testing, we want to encourage each and every one of our young Dragons to come to school, be here on time and be prepared . . . get a good night's sleep the night before . . . eat a very good breakfast each morning . . . have a positive state of mind about the day and simply try their best on each test . . . bring with them a couple of pencils for if/when they need to work out a question first on scratch paper . . . and show what they know - - - what they have learned throughout this year - - - on each assessment they take. Parents, anything you can do to help us reiterate these good test taking tips, we would be most appreciative!

As always here at DeSana, we appreciate your support in all of our endeavors! Should you have any questions about the *Georgia Milestones End of Grade* and *End of Course Assessments* please feel free to contact me, Terri North, Principal, at tnorth@forsyth.k12.ga.us or at 770-667-2591, extension 491515.