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March 9, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Each spring, the State of Michigan and the US Department of Education (USDE) require us to assess students in certain subject areas through the M-STEP, PSAT and SAT. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) submitted a request to USDE to waive the assessment requirements this year due to the pandemic. While we expect that there will still be a requirement to assess students, we are awaiting additional guidance from MDE.

We are planning on administering the assessments beginning in mid-April for the students in the grades listed in the chart below. More information, including dates and times for the assessments, will be shared in the coming weeks.

The spring state assessments are required to be given in-person. Our virtual students will need to come into one of our buildings to take their assessments.

The assessments provide the district an important snapshot of student achievement at the state, district and building levels. Our results help us evaluate the effectiveness of our curriculum and programming, and make any changes if necessary. The data gained from these assessments will help us determine any gaps in learning that may have occurred during the pandemic. Individual student results will also be shared with parents.

Grade	Assessment	Content Area
3, 4, 5, 6, 7	M-STEP	English Language Arts (ELA) Mathematics Science (Grade 5 only) Social Studies (Grade 5 only)
8	PSAT M-STEP	PSAT – ELA & Mathematics M-STEP – Science & Social Studies
9, 10	PSAT	ELA Mathematics
11	Michigan Merit Exam SAT M-STEP WorkKeys	SAT - ELA & Mathematics M-STEP - Science & Social Studies WorkKeys - work skills assessment

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Like so many other things this year, our protocols for conducting spring state assessments may look different in order to protect the health and safety of our students and teachers. We will continue to monitor health data for our community and will make adjustments, if needed, to our spring state assessment plans in order to keep our students, families, and staff safe.

Thank you,
Dr. Donna Anderson
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

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