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The Essence of a Student-Centered School...

March 18, 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that state testing in Georgia has not been waived this year, and Clayton County Public Schools is required to offer state assessments to all students expected to test, including virtual students. The Georgia Milestones EOC assessments **test cannot be given remotely and** must be given in a face-to-face environment.

State Superintendent Woods wants to ensure that no virtual students are required to attend school solely to test if they do not feel comfortable doing so due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and you may decline to test. However, State Superintendent Woods announced in March that he wants to ensure that no virtual students are required to attend school solely to test if they do not feel comfortable due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. With that said, Clayton County Public Schools values the purpose of testing. They are:

- The Milestones Assessment is a metric used to gauge learning.
- The Milestones Assessment helps pinpoint areas for improvement and areas of mastery.
- The Milestones Assessment can help schools evaluate progress.
- The Milestones Assessment can help the school system plan for and provide resources.

If your child continues with *at-home remote learning*, but you want your child to participate in the Georgia Milestones Assessments, he/she will need to:

- 1) Register to test using the below links **no later than March 25, 2021.**
Algebra I: <https://forms.gle/K636ZUOut35wdYki7>
American Literature Writing Section: <https://forms.gle/xKTc1nDZ6NbrvM3y5>
American Literature Section 2 and 3: <https://forms.gle/VshqztLU2kxKv5r87>
Biology: <https://forms.gle/BjScU2S6XDQchXW59>
U.S. History: <https://forms.gle/8bH9iimvQ73ZbXePA>

- request transportation **if needed**, on the registration link above so that a customized bus route can be provided.
- report to the school site on his/her designated day(s) of testing per the schedule at the end of this letter.

If you would like to decline testing for your child, please complete this form by April 2, 2021: [Decline Testing Form](#).

However, your child is enrolled in one or more of the 4 core courses identified by the State Board of Education (SBOE) which requires your student to participate in the Georgia Milestones End of Course (EOC) assessment at the end of each course, in accordance with Georgia law (O.C.G.A §20-2-282 - §20-2-285) and (SBOE) Rule. The End of Course high school core courses are: **American Literature and Composition, Algebra I/Coordinate Algebra, Biology, and United States History.**

In December 2020, the State Board of Education (SBOE) voted to approve State School Superintendent Richard Woods' recommendation to change the weight of the EOC exam grade from 20% to .01% for the 2020-2021 school year. The goal is to significantly reduce the impact of high-stakes testing during the pandemic on students' Final Average. With this reduction in the EOC exam grade weight, students' scores on the End of Course exam will not have a negative impact on your child's final average.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please reach out to your school's administration team for guidance and next steps.