



**LEVITTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Jonas E. Salk Middle School**  
Old Jerusalem Road  
Levittown, New York 11756  
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John Zampaglione, Principal

Amy O’Grady, Assistant Principal

January 2023

Dear Families,

This spring our students in Grades 3-8 will be taking the New York State English Language Arts and mathematics assessments, as well as the science assessment\* in Grade 8. These tests are designed to measure how well students are mastering the learning standards that guide classroom instruction. Testing will take place on the following days:

<b>Grade(s)</b>	<b>ELA Test Dates</b>	<b>Math Test Dates</b>	<b>Test Format</b>
3-4	April 19th- April 20th	May 2nd- 3rd	Paper-Format
5	April 19th- April 20th	May 2nd- 3rd	Computer-Based
6-7	April 19th- April 20th	May 2nd- 3rd	Paper-Format
8	April 19th- April 20th	May 2nd- 3rd	Computer-Based

\*Grade 8 Science - June 5th - paper based

The New York State Education Department has begun the process of transitioning all 3-8 testing in ELA, math, and science, to computer-based assessments, and will be completely phasing out paper-based assessments by 2026. To prepare our students and staff for this shift, we will be administering the NYS ELA and Math assessments in Grade 5 and Grade 8 digitally this year, as these are the first two grades required to test in this new format. The remaining grade-levels will be assessed in the traditional paper-based format this year. Students will be using their district-provided devices for these assessments.

The state rollout of 3-8 computer-based testing will be incremental to afford school districts the opportunity to assess their technology infrastructure and provide administrators, teachers, and students an opportunity to become more familiar with the process. In late January we will be participating in a statewide computer-based testing simulation in Grades 5 and 8 to evaluate our readiness for actual testing this spring.

Please be advised that this move to digital testing by the New York State Education Department represents changes in standardized testing nationwide. Computer-based testing is believed to improve test delivery, test integrity, and the turn-around time on testing results. Other major standardized assessments to transition to a digital-only format will be the PSAT in 2023 and the SAT in 2024. The College Board has also begun introducing digital exam options for the Advanced Placement program.

We recognize that parents will make a decision they believe to be in the best interest of their child. We ask that each family fill out our State Assessment Participation Form, no later than Friday, March 3rd so that building administration can appropriately plan for all students. We ask that you complete this form even if you have already sent a letter or email to your building administration regarding your wishes.

Your building's participation form can be found here: <https://forms.gle/M9RyXJA1jgeW8CPF8>

Thank you,

Beth Zirotiannis, Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction