

ISLAND TREES MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Office of the Principal

March, 2014

Dear Parents:

I am sure you are all aware of the grade level NYS English Language Arts and Math Assessments that we are required to administer every year. This year, the English Language Arts Assessment will be administered from April 1-3, while the Math Assessment will be administered from April 30- May 2. These dates are determined by New York State.

The assessments measure how your child is progressing in English Language Arts and math. The results are also used to determine if your child will need to receive Academic Intervention Services for the following year. It is very important that you stress to your child the importance of preparing for, and doing well on, the assessments. Part of this process is making sure your child gets a good night's rest before and eats a healthy breakfast the morning of their assessments. The extra preparation at home can make a big difference. Your child and his/her teachers have been preparing all year for the assessments and I am confident that our students will be very successful this year

All students in all grades are expected to arrive at school at the regular time for each of the assessment days.

They will take their assessments in the morning and then follow a modified schedule for the rest of the day. Students will be dismissed at regular time for each of the assessment days. (A copy of the assessment days and modified bell schedule can be found on the reverse side of this letter for your reference.) In order to provide optimum testing conditions for our students, it is important that your child is in his/her testing room prior to the start of the assessment at 8:12 AM. Please make every effort to make sure that your child is not tardy on these very important testing days. During the six days of testing there will be not be a Homeroom/Homebase period and attendance will be taken by proctors in the test rooms.

Pre-8:12 a.m.- All students arrive to school at the regular time (normal bus runs)

8:12-10:25 a.m.- All students will take the assessments

10:28-2:34 p.m.- Delayed opening bell schedule (see reverse side)

2:34 p.m.- All students are dismissed from school at the regular time (normal bus runs)

Please note that all students must follow NYS Assessment policies related to electronic devices. **Students cannot have any communications device during the test or during any breaks (including restroom visits).** Such devices include cell phones; Blackberry devices and other PDAs; iPods and MP3 players; iPads, tablets, and other eReaders; laptops, notebooks or any other personal computing devices; cameras or other photographic equipment; headphones, headsets, or earbuds; any other device capable of recording audio, photographic, or video content, or capable of viewing or playing back such content. This also includes handheld gaming devices. **Again, students should NOT have any device on them when taking the assessment.** We urge you to review these rules with your child(ren) and emphasize the importance of them leaving their devices at home or stored securely in their lockers prior to reporting to their assessment location. **Failure to comply with this rule could lead to a student's test being invalidated.**

Thank you, in advance, for your support.

Sincerely,

Roger Bloom
Principal

<p><i>Delayed Opening Bell Schedule on reverse side</i></p>

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