



# TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Richard C. Fastnacht**

*Director of Funded Programs/District Testing Coordinator*

1144 Hooper Avenue, Toms River, NJ 08753

(732) 505 – 5500 x500046 Fax: (732) 244 - 7003

[rfastnacht@trschoools.com](mailto:rfastnacht@trschoools.com)

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

This spring, schools across New Jersey will administer the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) in English language arts (ELA), mathematics, and science. The assessments for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics will be administered to students in grades 3 - 9 (some students may be required to test in grade 10, 11, or 12 based on unique circumstances) and the science assessments will be administered to students in grades 5, 8 and 11.

The NJSLA are statewide assessments that gauge students' progress toward the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in ELA, mathematics, and science. The assessment is administered in computer-based (CBT) format, although paper-based testing (PBT) is available as an accommodation. English language arts (ELA) assessments will focus on writing effectively when analyzing text. Mathematics assessments will focus on applying skills and concepts and understanding multi-step problems that require abstract reasoning and modeling real-world problems, precision, perseverance, and strategic use of tools. Science assessments will focus on applying scientific concepts and practices within the domain of Earth and space, life, and physical science. Students will demonstrate their acquired skills and knowledge by answering selected-response items, constructed response items and technology-enhanced questions.

The assessments identify areas where a student may need additional support as well as where he or she has mastered the content and can be challenged to go deeper into the subject matter. No single test can give a complete picture of achievement, but when combined with course grades and teacher reports, a clearer understanding of individual student progress is gained and performance can be monitored over time.

Toms River Regional Schools ensures a testing environment that follows all protocols and procedures and is not disruptive to the students taking the assessments. We are committed to student achievement and these assessments raise the bar for our students to ensure they are on the path to success. We are confident that with the quality instruction delivered by our dedicated educators and your support, our students can meet and exceed these expectations.

If you would like to view Toms River's NJSLA Testing Schedule or have any questions, please do not hesitate to visit our State-Mandated Testing webpage at <http://www.trschools.com/parents/statetesting>.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to your child's education.

Sincerely,

*Richard C. Fastnacht*

Richard C. Fastnacht  
District Test Coordinator  
Director of Funded Programs  
[rfastnacht@trschoools.com](mailto:rfastnacht@trschoools.com)  
732-505-5500 x500046