

TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



February 23, 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Next month, schools across New Jersey will administer the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment-Adaptive (NJGPA-A) in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The assessments for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics will be administered to students in grade 11 for the purpose of meeting the state graduation assessment requirement.

The state-mandated New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment-Adaptive will be administered March 17 - March 19, 2026, with make-up dates from March 20 - March 27, 2026. The NJGPA-A is administered in a computer-based format, although paper-based testing is available as an accommodation. The English language arts assessment will focus on writing and effectively analyzing text. The mathematics assessment 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. Students will demonstrate their acquired skills and knowledge by answering selected-response items, constructed response items and technology-enhanced questions. To help prepare for the assessments, students have been exploring practice items in their English and mathematics classes, and these practice tests are also available for students to take at home as well.

Students must take and demonstrate proficiency in grade 11 on the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment-Adaptive, which includes content aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) for grade 10 ELA and NJSLS in Algebra 1 and Geometry. If after completing the NJGPA-A a student does not demonstrate proficiency on the ELA or mathematics section, the student may retake the NJGPA-A in the following fall, meet a designated cut score from substitute competency tests, or complete a portfolio appeal. Also, the student may be required to be placed in a NJGPA-A preparation course in their senior year. A student with disabilities whose IEP states that they are not eligible for the alternate assessment (Dynamic Learning Maps) must take the NJGPA-A in grade 11.

The 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 have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or visit our State-Mandated Testing FAQ [webpage](#). You can also [register for](#) and attend one of the information sessions offered by the NJDOE.

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