

New Hope-Solebury School District

March 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11,

All students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11 will be taking the 2008 Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSA) mathematics and reading assessments during the month of March. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) provides our school district with a “window” of time to administer and complete the assessments. We permit our schools, and in some cases individual grade levels and classes, to set their own testing schedules within that window. Therefore, please expect to receive more specific testing schedule information directly from your child’s school.

In addition to receiving individual student performance data reports that are sent home to you, the PSSA process provides our school district with performance data reports on our entire school district. We carefully analyze and utilize this important data to ensure that our K-12 curriculum is continually aligned with national, state, and New Hope-Solebury standards and to ensure that our primary mission of teaching and learning is effectively achieved.

We respectfully ask that you join us in impressing upon your child that this assessment needs to be taken in a very serious manner. Please encourage your child to get a good night’s rest and healthy breakfasts during the testing days. Students should bring two number two pencils, highlighters, and calculators on testing days. The highest possible level of individual student performance is important for our students and their future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child’s guidance counselor.

Sincerely,

Amy K. Mangano
K-12 Assessment Coordinator
New Hope-Solebury School District