



EAGLE EYES



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AzMERIT

Testing season is upon us. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for these opportunities for students to demonstrate what they know. Once again this year, our AzMERIT testing will be done online using our Chromebooks. Especially for our 3rd graders, this presents some challenges, because the tests are no longer strictly multiple choice.

Students will be asked to drag and drop items to sort them into categories or create lists. There are now questions that have more than one answer, so students will need to choose ALL the correct answers. There are questions where students will need to type their answers in text boxes.

The first test will be the Writing test, which everyone will take on April 4th. The English Language Arts (ELA) and Math tests each have two parts, so those four tests will be spread out over the week of April 9th-12th.

Kindergarten through second grades will be taking their benchmark assessments during the time that 3rd-8th is taking their AzMERIT tests.

In addition, 4th and 8th grade students will take the AIMS Science test on April 18th. For the first time, this test will also be taken on the Chromebooks.

It will be extremely important that students are well-rested, well-fed, present and on-time every day, but especially during the testing season. How well our students perform on their assessments directly translates into our school's letter grade, which now can affect our school's funding.

2018-2019 Applications

There has been a delay in the production of the forms for our new enrollment applications, so we will need to move the availability date back to next Thursday, April 5th.



HOW CAN I HELP MY STUDENT?

- Encourage them to take testing seriously – Unfortunately, too often we see students who race through their tests in order to “just get them done.” They are missing out on the practice they need to successfully take tests in the future. In addition, promotion and retention decisions are often based in part on assessment scores.
- Discuss test-taking tools and strategies – For every test, students have tools that they can use to help them be successful, whether it is scratch paper, the online calculator or the dictionary and thesaurus for the writing test. Strategies include trying every answer, justifying their answer, or making a table, chart, or graph. When students see you have an interest in what they are learning, they tend to take a little more pride in and responsibility for their learning.
- Enforce a school-night bedtime – Although it's getting darker later, students still need the same 8-10 hours of rest each night to be productive in school the next day.
- Remind them about bus behavior – Our field trips are coming up soon, and it would be a shame for students to miss out because they cannot maintain appropriate bus behavior. Students should be sitting in their seats, facing forward. Conversation voices should be used. Students should not be changing seats, standing, or horseplaying. Failure to follow the procedures can result in students losing bus privileges.



SNAP-ED Parent Night

Everyone is invited to our SNAP-ED Parent Night. Bree Daugherty will be offering a **FREE** cooking and nutrition workshop in our gymnasium beginning at 5:30 pm on April 11, 2018. The workshop will take approximately 45-60 minutes and she will have **FREE** kitchen item to give away to those in attendance.