Dear Parents/Guardians:

The New York State English Language Arts and Mathematics Assessments for our seventh and eighth grade students are nearly upon us. The goal of each assessment is to provide additional information about student performance with regard to the New York State Learning Standards. The assessments will be untimed and administered over a two day period. Eighth grade students currently enrolled in Algebra will be exempt from the eighth grade mathematics assessments as they will be taking a Regents examination in June. Please see Dr. Brimstein’s letter and the frequently asked questions document distributed by the New York State Education Department for further information. Below are the specific administration dates for the tests.

**English Language Arts Assessment**
- Day 1: Tuesday, April 2
- Day 2: Wednesday, April 3

**The Mathematics Assessment**
- Day 1: Wednesday, May 1
- Day 2: Thursday, May 2

In order to prepare the students to do their very best work on these tests, please have your child adhere to the following guidelines:

1. **Get a good night’s rest.** It is essential that students are rested before taking any test. *Start now* to ensure that your child gets plenty of sleep, especially the night before and during the testing periods. Have children refrain from using computer or television immediately before going to bed.
2. **Eat breakfast.** Feed your child a nutritious breakfast every day, but especially on the morning of the tests. Research shows that a regular diet high in fruits and vegetables gives students an excellent start to the day.
3. **Be prepared.** Have your child bring two #2 pencils to school on exam day.
4. **Relax.** Encourage your child to do their best work, and minimize any anxiety they may be feeling.
5. **Mark your calendar.** Make every effort to have your child in attendance on these testing days and all days school is in session.
6. **Be on time.** The assessments will be administered at the beginning of the school day; therefore it is imperative that students arrive to school on time.

Our teachers have been working closely with the students to prepare them for all assessments, and we are confident that they are ready. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school.

Sincerely,

Sal Alaimo
Principal

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