

Ohio's State Tests

Next Generation Assessments

2014-2015



Vision

Our vision is to be the benchmark of educational excellence.

Mission

Our mission is to prepare students to contribute to the competitive and changing world in which we live.

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Five Things You Should Know about Ohio's *NEW* State Tests

◆ **Content Areas** - Ohio's State Tests take the place of the Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAA) this school year. English Language Arts (Reading) and Mathematics are developed through the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). Science and Social Studies assessments are developed through the Ohio Department of Education. All four assessments (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) are aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards.

◆ **Grade Levels Assessed - ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL:** All students in grades 3-8 will be assessed in Reading and Mathematics. In addition, Science will be assessed in grades 5 and 8, and Social Studies in grades 4 and 6.

HIGH SCHOOL: Grade 9 students (as well as other students on a course specific written acceleration plan) enrolled in English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, Geometry, Physical Science, and/or American History are required to take the new Ohio's State Tests. High school students taking American Government this year are required to take the new Ohio's State Test in Social Studies. However, students taking IB or AP American Government are not required to take the American Government State test if taking the IB or AP exam test. Students in grade 10 will still take the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) in Reading, Mathematics, Writing, Science, and Social Studies using paper/pencil in March 2015.

◆ **Revised Assessment Times** - For all students taking the new Ohio's State Tests, these will be administered in two parts: February-March, 2015 (Part I—Performance-Based Assessments) / April-May, 2015 (Part II—End-of-Year Assessments). However, the Ohio Department of Education and PARCC recently released a revised outline of how long each test will take. Therefore, the district's assessment calendar is currently under revision to reflect these new changes. It is expected the updated district assessment calendar will be re-released by the end of October 2014.

◆ **Preparation for Assessments** - As Ohio's State Tests are intended to be taken online, for more than a year Westerville City School district personnel have been identifying and planning for the technology and resources needed for the online delivery of statewide assessments at school. This year, grades 4 (Reading, Mathematics, Social Studies), grade 5 (Science), and grade 7 (Reading, Mathematics) were identified to transition to online assessments. Grade 5 (Reading, Mathematics) and all other grade levels will take the tests using a paper/pencil format (as was the case in previous OAA/OGT administrations).

◆ **Helpful Web Links** - Parents are encouraged to visit the web links below with their child as they contain resources, sample items, tutorials for taking online assessments, and practice tests.

English Language Arts / Mathematics - <http://practice.parcc.testnav.com/>

Science / Social Studies - <http://oh.portal.airast.org/ocba/>