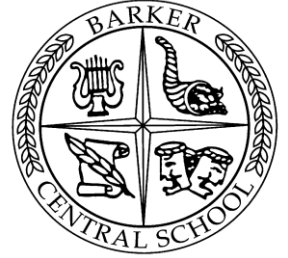


Barker Central School
1628 Quaker Road, Barker, New York 14012-0328



March 29, 2021

To Parents/Guardians of 3-8 Students:

This letter is to inform all families of 3-8 students that New York State Education Department (NYSED) is currently planning on administering the state assessments in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. Please read this information in its entirety.

- ELA 3-8 will be administered as follows:
 - Tuesday 4/20: Cohort A students and all special education/504 students will take the assessment. 8:30 – 10:30 am.
 - Friday 4/23: Cohort B and any cohort C (see info below) will take the assessment.
- Math 3-8 will be administered as follows:
 - Tuesday 5/4: Cohort A and Special Education/504 students will take the assessment.
 - Friday 5/7: Cohort B and cohort C students will take the assessment. 8:30 – 10:30 am.
- NYSED has removed all student and school accountability from these assessments. This means that schools or teachers' standings with the state will not be affected. For students, we will be using this as another point of assessment to determine how kids are doing with their learning standards.
- NYSED has drastically reduced the length of the assessment. It will only include Session 1, which will be a length of approximately 60-80 minutes, depending on the grade level. These will no longer be spread over the course of days. This is a one-time administration, and then back to normal classroom routines.
- Students who are fully remote (Cohort C) are not required to come in to take it. However, if you would like your child to come in, please let the elementary main office (grades 3-6) or the high school office (7-8) know by Wednesday April 14 so we can plan accordingly.
- We absolutely encourage all students to take this no-stress, no-strings attached assessment. It will give our teachers more assessment information to make decisions regarding instruction. However, if a family wishes for their child to not take part, please let the appropriate main office know by Wednesday April 14 so we can plan accordingly.
- All testing modifications on 504 and IEP plans will be incorporated into the administration.
- If your child is absent and you wish for him/her to take the assessment, please let the appropriate main office know as well.

We strongly encourage our students to participate in the assessment. The assessments are much shorter, less stressful, and easier to administer and take than ever. These will give our teachers another opportunity to gather student information on their success with learning standards, and also allow teachers to adapt their instruction to meet kids' needs for the remainder of the year.

Thank you very much for your continued cooperation and support through this school year.

Sincerely,

Michael Carter, District Principal