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R 2622 STUDENT ASSESSMENT

The New Jersey Department of Education, pursuant to State law and regulations, requires all students to take State assessments as scheduled. There is no provision for a student to opt-out of Statewide assessments. Therefore, the Board requires all students to take Statewide assessments and the Board cannot grant permission to a parent for their child to opt-out of required Statewide assessments. The procedures outlined below shall be followed in the event a parent refuses to have their child participate in a Statewide assessment.

A. Written Notice from Parent

1. A parent who refuses to have their child participate in a Statewide assessment shall submit a letter to the school Principal stating their child will not participate in a Statewide assessment.
2. The parent shall indicate in the letter the testing date(s) and the specific Statewide assessment(s) their child will not be taking.
3. The letter shall be submitted to the Principal at least five school days before the scheduled testing date.
4. The letter shall be maintained with the student's academic records.

B. Testing Date

1. A student whose parent has provided prior written notice informing the Principal their child will not be participating in a Statewide assessment will be required to report to the testing location on the date of the assessment.
2. The student will be removed from the testing location to an area in the building such as a study hall, media center, or other location in the school where the student can be supervised by a school district staff member.
3. A student not participating in a Statewide assessment will not be provided an alternative educational activity during the testing time.

C. Attendance Recording

1. A student, whose parent has provided prior written notice informing the Principal their child will not participate in a Statewide assessment, who reports to school on the testing date shall be recorded as present in school.

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2. A student, whose parent has provided prior written notice informing the Principal their child will not participate in a Statewide assessment, who does not report to school on the testing date shall be recorded as absent. This absence shall be recorded as an unexcused absence.

D. School District Response

1. There shall be no disciplinary consequence imposed upon a student who does not participate in a Statewide assessment in accordance with the provisions outlined in this Regulation.
2. A student who does not participate in a Statewide assessment(s) will not receive any credit for the Statewide assessment(s).

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