

# HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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March 20, 2018

Dear Parents,

Once again it is time for students to take their annual, state mandated assessment. Now in its fourth year, the PARCC should be familiar and manageable for students. As a result of feedback we received following last year's PARCC administration, we have decided to condense the majority of our testing from six days, to just three days.

High Point will administer the PARCC this year in most subjects from **April 17-19**, and in Algebra I on **May 22-23**.

The PARCC is a state requirement. The test is designed to help both schools and students learn about their strengths and weaknesses, and to use the test data to increase student achievement.

Last year **98%** of all High Point students in a tested subject (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II; English 9, 10, 11) took the PARCC, and we once again expect all students in these courses to take this assessment. For ninth and tenth-grade students (Class of 2020 and Class of 2021), failure to take the PARCC could jeopardize students' ability to graduate from High Point. For eleventh and twelfth-grade students, the test fulfills a graduation requirement.

As with any assessment, the results can only be leveraged to guide improvement if students genuinely engage with the test. We anticipate that our students will once again make a committed effort to perform well on PARCC and to demonstrate their true ability. Thank you for supporting our efforts to make this mandated assessment a meaningful tool for improvement.

Enclosed is a list of PARCC FAQ's that were shared with all students, as well as instructions students can follow to practice for the PARCC.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Seamus Campbell

## 20 Questions - PARCC FAQ's:

### 1. Who Takes the PARCC?

Students enrolled in the following six classes will take the PARCC: **Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, English 9, English 10, English 11.**

### 2. When do we take the PARCC?

From Tuesday, April 17 through Thursday, April 19 we will administer the PARCC in **Geometry, Algebra II, English 9, English 10, English 11.** On May 22-23 we will administer the PARCC in **Algebra I.**

## 2018 PARCC Test Schedule:

Tuesday, April 17	D Day Duty Assignments	Wednesday, April 18	A Day Duty Assignments
7:35-7:50	Instructions (15)	7:35-7:50	Instructions (15)
7:50-9:20	Test (Math Unit 1) (90)	7:50-9:20	Test (Math Unit 3) (90)
9:20-9:30	wrap up (10)	9:20-9:30	wrap up (10)
9:30-9:40	break (10)	9:30-9:45	break (15)
9:40-9:55	instructions (15)	9:45-10:05	instructions (20)
9:55-11:25	Test (Math Unit 2) (90)	<b>Transition from MATH to ELA</b>	
11:25-11:35	wrap up (10)	10:05-11:35	Test (ELA Unit I) (90)
11:35-12:25	UL (50 min)	11:35-11:45	wrap up (10)
12:25-1:03	Period 1 (38 min)	11:45-12:40	UL (55 min)
1:07-1:45	Period 2 (38 min)	12:40-1:32	Period 5 (52 min)
1:49-2:27	Period 3 (38 min)	1:36-2:27	Period 4 (51 min)

Thursday, April 19	B Day Duty Assignments	Friday, April 20	C Day Duty Assignments
7:35-7:50	Instructions (15)	ALL Periods MEET - PARCC Makeups	
7:50-9:20	Test (ELA Unit 2) (90)	7:35-8:17	Period 1
9:20-9:30	wrap up (10)	8:21-9:03	Period 2
9:30-9:40	break (10)	9:07-9:49	Period 3
9:40-9:55	instructions (15)	9:53-10:35	Period 4
9:55-11:25	Test (ELA Unit 3) (90)		<b>UL</b>
11:25-11:35	wrap up (10)	11:29-12:11	Period 5
11:35-12:25	UL (50 min)	12:15-12:57	Period 6
12:25-1:03	Period 6 (38 min)	1:01-1:43	Period 7
1:07-1:45	Period 7 (38 min)	1:47-2:27	Period 8
1:49-2:27	Period 8 (38 min)		

### 3. Is PARCC a graduation requirement?

All students in a tested course are required to take PARCC. All students are also required to demonstrate proficiency (prove they are well educated!) on a standardized test in order to graduate. Students in grades 11 and 12 can fulfill this through tests such as the ASVAB or the SAT..

- For students in the Class of **2020 (Grade 10)** students can only use alternative methods (SAT, PSAT, ASVAB, etc.) to prove proficiency IF they took all required PARCC tests.
- For students in the **Class of 2021 (Grade 9)** students are required to pass the Algebra I PARCC, and the English 10 PARCC. This group of students can only use an alternative

method, known as the “portfolio appeal,” to prove proficiency IF they took all required PARCC tests.

**4. What if I really don’t want to take the PARCC?**

The PARCC is the only scheduled activity at High Point during the testing sessions. You are expected to be in your testing room during the PARCC.

**5. Where will I test?**

You will test in a regular classroom using a Chromebook. Your Math and English teachers will inform you of your testing room during the week of April 9.

**6. Will I take the PARCC with my subject teacher and classmates?**

Students will be testing in classrooms (on Chromebooks) throughout the school building. Both students from your class as well as students from other classes will be in your test room.

**7. How long is the test each day?**

Each test will take 90 minutes, and students will take two test units on most days. Many students will finish before the time expires. Students may read quietly when they finish a test.

**8. I know I need to take the English PARCC, but I’m not in an Algebra or Geometry class. Do I still take a Math PARCC?**

Students in grades 9, 10 or 11 who do not take Algebra I, Algebra II or Geometry DO NOT take a Math PARCC test this year. These students will be assigned to a study hall in the media center on April 17 and during the first test session on April 18.

**9. What happens if I am absent during a day I am schedule to take the PARCC?**

Students who miss a portion of the PARCC will be required to make-up the parts of the test they missed either in the afternoon on the day they return to school, or the first day they are in school after PARCC testing ends.

**10. What can I do if I finish the PARCC before the testing time expires?**

You may read quietly. All students may bring “leisure reading” materials to the test room. These materials may not relate to the subject being tested. Leave “The Adventures of Algebra” home on these days.

**11. What if I took the PARCC last year for a class I am in this year?**

There are some students who will take the PARCC in a class they took the PARCC for last year. This is not common, but some ninth graders took the Algebra I PARCC in 8th grade. If you are in Algebra I as a ninth grader, you take the Algebra I PARCC this year. Also, students who are repeating a course must take the PARCC again for that course.

**12. I’m a senior. Do I need to take the PARCC?**

That depends. If you are enrolled in Algebra II, yes, you are expected to take the Math PARCC for that class. Good news - 12th graders who take a Math PARCC will be excused from school at 12:00 on those days! Many seniors will be attending AP review sessions with their AP

teachers. **Seniors not taking a PARCC test or reviewing for an AP test must arrive to school by 10:30 am on April 17, 18, and 19.**

**\*\* All ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students, whether taking a PARCC test or not, are expected to be in school at our regular start time of 7:35 a.m.**

**13. Are some students allowed extra time when they take standardized tests?**

Yes. Students who are eligible for extra time on tests have been scheduled to take the PARCC in a specific testing room where additional time will be provided.

**14. If each test unit lasts for approximately 90 minutes, how long will classes be in the afternoon following PARCC testing?**

On test days the PARCC will be given in the morning, followed by a schedule with Unit Lunch and then two or three instructional periods ranging from 38-52 minutes in length. See the schedule include din answer to question number two.

**15. What do I need to bring with me on test day?**

Headphones, leisure reading material and a smile.

**16. Why do I need headphones?**

Headphones are optional during the Math PARCC, but they **are essential** for aspects of the English PARCC, as multimedia content is presented.

**17. What items are prohibited from the test room?**

Food, jackets, backpacks, textbooks, cell phones and other electronic devices are prohibited in test rooms.

**18. Do I need a calculator for the PARCC?**

No. The PARCC is a computer based test and the platform which runs the test provides you with a calculator.

**19. Will I get a chance to practice taking PARCC questions and using the test platform?**

Yes. All students will practice answering PARCC questions and using the TestNav platform in their Math and English classes. Additionally, you will be receiving an email with instructions on how to access additional practice tests.

**20. What if I have more questions about the PARCC?**

You may ask a teacher, your counselor or an administrator.



## Practicing for PARCC

**March 23, 2018**

Students,

From **April 17-19** all students in the following courses will take the **PARCC**:

**Geometry, Algebra II, English 9, English 10, English 11**

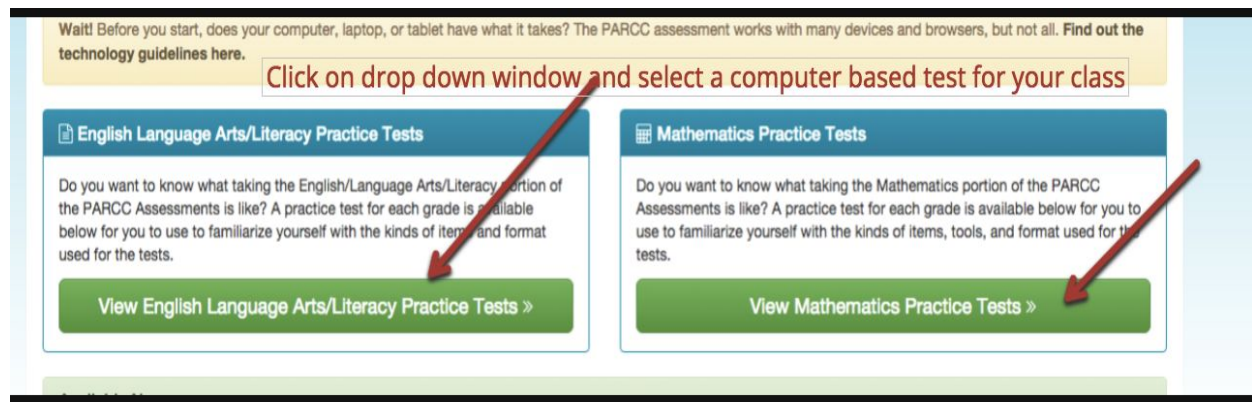
From **May 22-23** all students in will take the **PARCC** in:

**Algebra I**

In order to prepare for the PARCC tests you can take sample questions in each subject. Taking these questions will familiarize you with both the test content as well as the computer platform (TestNav) on which PARCC is administered.

### TAKING THE PRACTICE TESTS:

**GO TO:** <http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/>




For example, a sophomore English student would click as indicated below for practice tests:

Click on “Computer Based Unit 1” and begin practicing.

Grade 10

This set contains all three tasks, the Narrative Writing Task, the Research Task, and the Literary Analysis Task.

Computer-Based Practice Test Unit 1	Computer-Based Practice Test Unit 2	Computer-Based Practice Test Unit 3	Paper-Based (all units)
Computer-Based Unit 1 »	Computer-Based Unit 2 »	Computer-Based Unit 3 »	Paper-Based units)
TTS Version Unit 1 »	TTS Version Unit 2 »	TTS Version Unit 3 »	Paper-Based Document (al
Accommodated Screen Reader Unit 1 »	Accommodated Screen Reader Unit 2 »	Accommodated Screen Reader Unit 3 »	Large Print Practice Test
Accommodated Non-Screen Reader Unit 1 »	Accommodated Non-Screen Reader Unit 2 »	Accommodated Non-Screen Reader Unit 3 »	EBAE Brail Unit 1)
American Sign Language Unit 1 »	American Sign Language Unit 2 »	American Sign Language Unit 3 »	EBAE Brail Units 2 & 3)
Closed Captioning Unit 1 »	Closed Captioning Unit 2 »	Closed Captioning Unit 3 »	—

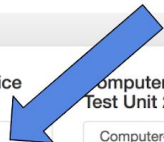


For example, an Algebra I students would click as indicated below for practice tests.

Click on “Computer Based Unit 1” and begin practicing.

Algebra I

Computer-Based Practice Test Unit 1	Computer-Based Practice Test Unit 2	Computer-Based Practice Test Unit 3	Paper-Based Practice Tests (all units)
Computer-Based Unit 1 »	Computer-Based Unit 2 »	Computer-Based Unit 3 »	Paper-Based Practice Test (all units)
TTS Version Unit 1 (no graphics) »	TTS Version Unit 2 (no graphics) »	TTS Version Unit 3 (no graphics) »	Paper-Based Answer Document (all units)
TTS Version Unit 1 (with graphics) »	TTS Version Unit 2 (with graphics) »	TTS Version Unit 3 (with graphics) »	Large Print Paper-Based Practice Test (all units)
Accommodated Screen Reader Version Unit 1 »	Accommodated Screen Reader Version Unit 2 »	Accommodated Screen Reader Version Unit 3 »	EBAE Braille Ready File (.brf, all units)
Accommodated Non-Screen Reader Version Unit 1 »	Accommodated Non-Screen Reader Version Unit 2 »	Accommodated Non-Screen Reader Version Unit 3 »	EBAE Braille Special Instructions
American Sign Language Version Unit 1 »	American Sign Language Version Unit 2 »	American Sign Language Version Unit 3 »	Spanish Paper-Based Practice Test (all units)
Spanish Computer-Based	Spanish Computer-Based	Spanish Computer-Based	



**SIGNING IN:** When practicing, you DO NOT need a username or password. Simply use the name “Guest” or any name you would like, and enter the practice test:

**Welcome! You are about to start a test.**

**Algebra II Mathematics PBA Practice Test**

There are 2 sections.

There are 20 total questions.

**Enter your name:**

Name:


[Start Test Now »](#)

**ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES:** The PARCC tests have numerous tools which assist students, and make the test more user friendly.

Notice how this Algebra I question can be answered with the use of an “EXHIBIT,” in this case - a Math Reference Sheet:

Exhibits
X

Formula Chart



**High School Assessment Reference Sheet**

1 inch = 2.54 centimeters  
1 meter = 39.37 inches  
1 mile = 5280 feet  
1 mile = 1760 yards  
1 mile = 1.609 kilometers

1 kilometer = 0.62 mile  
1 pound = 16 ounces  
1 pound = 0.454 kilograms  
1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds  
1 ton = 2000 pounds

1 cup = 8 fluid ounces  
1 pint = 2 cups  
1 quart = 2 pints  
1 gallon = 4 quarts  
1 gallon = 3.785 liters  
1 liter = 0.264 gallons  
1 liter = 1000 cubic centimeters

Triangle	$A = \frac{1}{2}bh$
Parallelogram	$A = bh$
Circle	$A = \pi r^2$

Pythagorean Theorem	$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$
Quadratic Formula	$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$
Arithmetic Sequence	$a_n = a_1 + (n - 1)d$

**BOOKMARK:** Each Section of a PARCC Test allows you to “**Bookmark**” a question. After you have gone through all questions, it indicates how many questions are “Not Answered” and how many questions were “Bookmarked.” This allows you to move past question with which you might be struggling, and then go back to these questions if time permits.



## End of Unit 1: Non-calculator Section

Use the **Review** button above to go back and review your answers. When you are done, use the **Submit Section** button below to submit your answers.



Not Answered

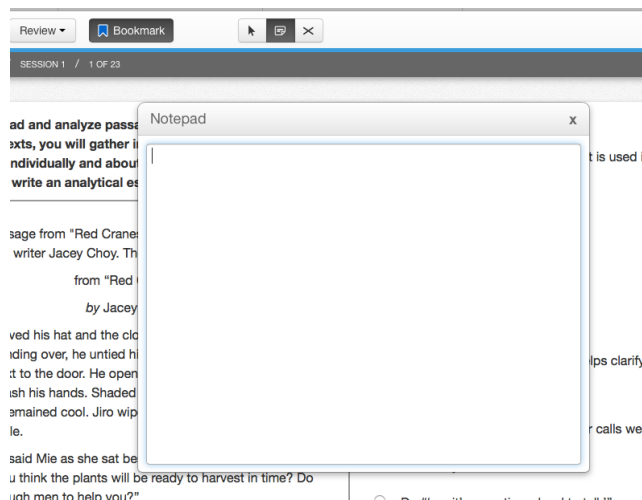


Bookmarks

Submit Section >>

Once you are satisfied with your answers, select “**Submit Section.**”

The “**Notepad**” feature allows you to take notes and use them to help you answer questions:



The “**Pointer**” (arrow icon at top of page) feature allows you to highlight text as you read:



about each text individually and about the relationship between the texts so you can write an analytical essay.

Read the passage from "Red Cranes," a short story written by United States writer Jacey Choy. Then answer the questions.

from "Red Cranes"

1 Jiro removed his hat and the cloth band tied around his forehead. Bending over, he untied his shoes, then set them in the shoe rack next to the door. He opened the door and shuffled over to the sink to wash his hands. Shaded by the aged cherry trees, the small house remained cool. Jiro wiped his hands on a towel and sat at the low table.

2 "Father," said Mie as she sat beside him, "how is the work going today? Do you think the plants will be ready to harvest in time? Do you have enough men to help you?"

**MATH Sections: when needed, students are provided with calculators, protractors, rulers and other tools.**

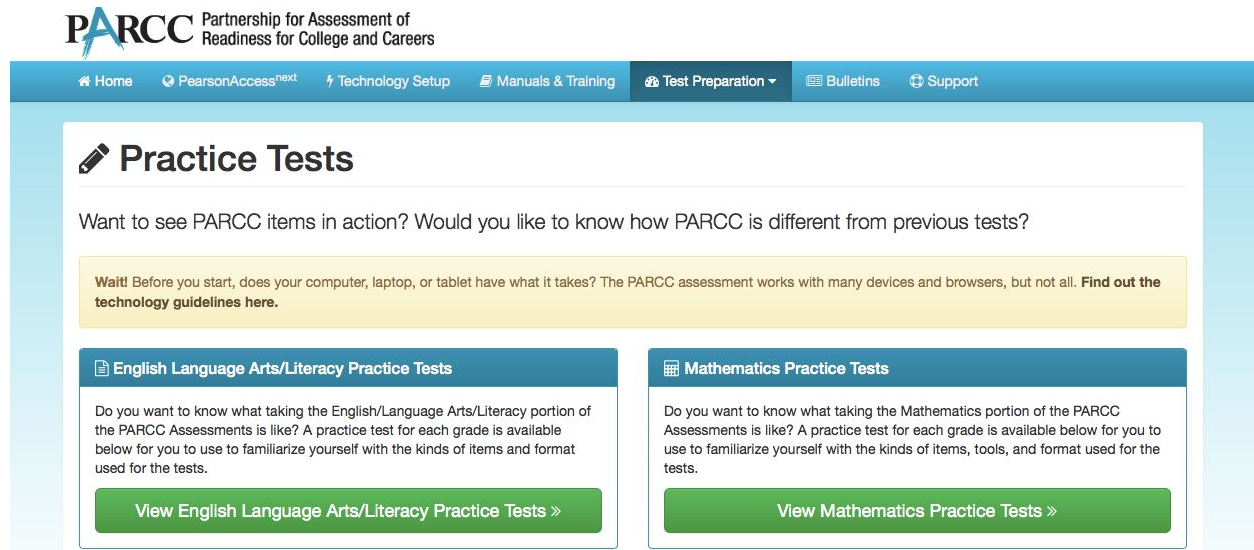
The screenshot shows a math test interface. At the top, there is a toolbar with icons for selection, erasing, and other tools. Below the toolbar, the text "OF 10" is visible. The main content area contains a word problem about a pool. A "Scientific Calculator" window is overlaid on the right side of the screen. The calculator has a display showing "0." and various function buttons like "1/x", "log", "ln", "x^a", "shift", "hyp", "sin", "cos", "tan", "M+", "Min", "MR", "x^2", "sqrt", "(", ")", "%", "CE", "AC", "EXP", "7", "8", "9", "÷", "π", "4", "5", "6", "×", "rand", "1", "2", "3", "-", "±", "0", ".", "=", and "+". Below the calculator, there is a grid of empty boxes for writing answers.

**More Practice?**

In addition to these Practice Tests, try looking at **test tutorials** which explain the specific types of questions you will see on the PARCC:

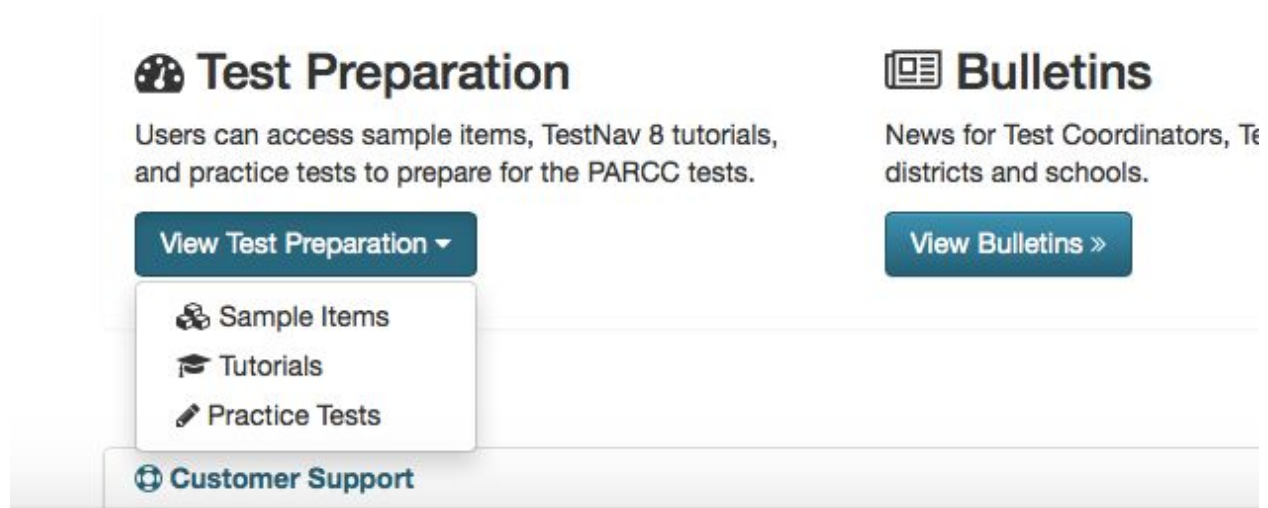
**GO TO:** <http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/>

**SELECT:** “Home” in upper left corner:



The screenshot shows the PARCC website's "Practice Tests" section. At the top is the PARCC logo and navigation links: Home, PearsonAccessnext, Technology Setup, Manuals & Training, Test Preparation (selected), Bulletins, and Support. The main heading is "Practice Tests" with a pencil icon. Below it is a question: "Want to see PARCC items in action? Would you like to know how PARCC is different from previous tests?". A yellow box contains a warning: "Wait! Before you start, does your computer, laptop, or tablet have what it takes? The PARCC assessment works with many devices and browsers, but not all. Find out the technology guidelines here." Below this are two columns. The left column is titled "English Language Arts/Literacy Practice Tests" and contains a description of the test and a green button labeled "View English Language Arts/Literacy Practice Tests »". The right column is titled "Mathematics Practice Tests" and contains a description of the test and a green button labeled "View Mathematics Practice Tests »".

**SELECT:** “View Test Preparation” and then select: “Tutorials.”



The screenshot shows the "Test Preparation" dropdown menu on the PARCC website. The menu is open, showing three options: "Sample Items", "Tutorials", and "Practice Tests". The "Tutorials" option is highlighted. To the right of the menu is a "Bulletins" section with a description: "News for Test Coordinators, Test Administrators, and districts and schools." and a button labeled "View Bulletins »". Below the menu is a "Customer Support" section with a globe icon and the text "Customer Support".