

3023 Sunlake Blvd. • Land O' Lakes, Florida • 34638 Phone: 813.346.1000 • Fax: 813.346.1091 http://slhs.pasco.k12.fl.us facebook.com/SLHSseahawk

Michael Cloyd • Principal Adrian Anthony • Asst. Principal | Jennifer Yonkof • Asst. Principal Heather Ochs • Asst. Principal | Kelly Weber • Asst. Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will have the opportunity to retake the computer-based Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) Algebra 1/Geometry/Algebra 2 End-of-Course (EOC)] assessment(s) or Algebra 1 Retake/Biology 1/Civics/U.S. History Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) on July 11, 12, and  $13^{th}$  from 8:00am – 11:30 am and 11:30am – 3:00pm. Your student has had an opportunity to participate in a practice test to become familiar with the computer-based testing platform, item types, and response formats he or she will see on the FSA assessments during the school year.

If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available at <u>http://www.fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/</u>. If your student is *unable* to take the test during the summer, they will have opportunities to take the necessary tests during the 2017-2018 school year.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- Electronic Devices—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing <u>or</u> during breaks (e.g., restroom), even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them. If your student is found with an electronic device, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculators** For EOC assessments, **approved calculators may be used during SESSION 2** <u>only</u>. If students have handheld calculators during Session 1, their tests will be invalidated.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All FSA tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: "I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated." Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signing below the statement on their planning sheets, worksheets, or work folders.
- Discussing Test Content after Testing—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states: "Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not discuss or reveal details about the passages or items after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on websites like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram." Please make sure your student understands that "discussing" test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to blogs or social media websites. While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.
- Working Independently—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student begins a test session and leaves campus before completing it (for lunch, an appointment or illness, etc.), he or she <u>will not</u> be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day during the school year. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.

- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), Section 504 plan, or English Language Learner (ELL) plan, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.
- For information regarding test session lengths for all 2017 FSA assessments, please visit the FSA Portal at <u>www.fsassessments.org</u>, click on the **Students and Families** icon, then select **Spring 2017 Testing Times**.
- If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available at <u>http://www.fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/</u>.
- For more information about the FSA program, please visit the FSA Portal at <u>www.fsassessments.org</u>.
- Each NGSSS EOC assessment is administered in one 160-minute session, but students may work up to the length of a typical school day.
- Your student has had an opportunity to participate in a practice test to become familiar with the software, item types, and online tools he or she will encounter and use during testing. If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, you can access a practice test (ePAT) at <u>www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT</u>. Your student may practice as often as necessary prior to testing.

If you are interested in participating in this summer's testing session, please reserve your seat prior to June 29 at <u>slhs.pasco.k12.fl.us</u> for the specific test you plan to take. Once you are registered, plan to attend July 11 at 8:00 AM. If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact AP Anthony at aanthony@pasco.k12.fl.us.

If your student chooses *not* to take the summer test, there will be opportunities during the school year.

Sincerely,

Assistant Principal Adrian Anthony