Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will be taking paper-based and/or computer-based statewide assessments: Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) and/or FCAT 2.0, Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, and/or End-Of-Course Assessments. Your student will have 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 assessments. 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 [http://www.flassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/](http://www.flassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/).

The link for FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake and/or (Algebra 1 Retake/Biology 1/Civics/UI.S. History Next Generation Sunshine State Standards End of Course Assessments is found at [www.flassessments.com/ePAT](http://www.flassessments.com/ePAT). Each NGSSS EOC assessment is administered in one 160-minute session, but students may work up to the length of a typical school day.

For information regarding test session lengths for all Spring 2019 FSA assessments, please visit the FSA Portal at [www.flassessments.org](http://www.flassessments.org), click on the Students and Families icon, and then select Frequently Asked Questions card, then select the question: “How long are the tests?”

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 (Apple watches), at any time during testing OR during breaks (e.g., restroom), even if they 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 Grades 7 and 8 Mathematics, approved calculators may be used during SESSIONS 2 and 3 ONLY. For EOC assessments, approved calculators may be used during SESSION 2 ONLY. If students have handheld calculators during Session 1, their tests will be invalidated. Calculators are not permitted during Grade 6 Mathematics tests.

- **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 Cavo 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 have their results 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 WILL NOT be allowed to complete 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. Please remember to not schedule appointments on testing days.

- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an IEP, Section 504 plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL), please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

- **Misc. Notes**—This year, mints will not be given out to students during their testing sessions, students will be expected to bring their charges on the day of their test sessions in case they need to charge their Chromebook, students will be expected to bring their earbuds on the day of their test session, and students will be expected to bring a mouse if they prefer to use one during their test session. If students are using a wireless mouse, students may want to bring batteries. Mints, chargers, and mice will not be given to students during testing sessions.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Allison Anderson at 352-259-0044.

PHONE: (352) 259-0044 • FAX: (352) 753-1113
CORRESPONDENCE: 450 Village Campus Circle • The Villages • FL • 32162
WEBSITE: [www.tpcs.org](http://www.tpcs.org)
Testing will take place at The Villages Middle School on the following days:

- **April 2nd**: FSA Writing Component Grade 6 (paper-based)
- **April 3rd**: FSA Writing Component Grades 7-8 (computer-based)
- **May 1st-2nd**: FSA ELA Grade 6 (paper-based)
- **May 3rd**: FCAT 2.0 NGSS Science Grade 8 (paper-based)
- **May 6th - 7th**: FSA Math Grade 6 (paper-based)
- **May 8th - 9th**: FSA ELA Grade 7 & 8 (computer-based)
- **May 13th-14th**: FSA Math Grade 7 & 8 (computer-based)
- **May 16th - 17th**: FSA Geometry EOC (computer-based)
- **May 20th-21st**: FSA Algebra EOC (computer-based)
- **May 22nd**: Pearson Civics EOC (computer-based)

End of Year assessments will be administered on May 11th, May 15th, May 16th, May 20th and May 22nd.

If your child missed the FSA Writing assessment in April the make-up administration will take place on May 10th for Grade 6 and May 21st for Grades 7 & 8.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Allisun Anderson, School Testing facilitator at 352-259-0044 or via email at Allisun.Anderson@TVCS.org or your child’s school counselor or administrator.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Peggy Irwin
Principal, The Villages Charter School - Middle School