

# Westerville City Schools

## Assessment Update

### 2015-2016 School Year



#### Vision

Our vision is to be the benchmark of educational excellence.

#### Mission

Our mission is to prepare students to contribute to the competitive and changing world in which we live.

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#### Questions?

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### Five Things You Should Know about Assessment this School Year

- ♦ **Spring 2015 State Test Results & Reports** - Grade 3-8 parent reports detailing results of their child's performance on last spring's Social Studies and Science State tests, as well as all High School (English I, English II, Algebra I, Geometry, Physical Science, American History, American Government) State tests, are scheduled to be published and sent home with students in November. Grade 3-8 Math and Reading Parent Reports will be sent home in December/January. Performance level standards for how cut scores are established can be viewed by accessing the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/ou4a23w>
- ♦ **Spring 2016 State Test Changes** - The Ohio Department of Education recently announced that it will no longer use PARCC assessments, but instead will use American Institutes for Research (AIR) as its test provider. Tests this year will be administered during one test window in April, as opposed to two different assessment windows like last school year. It is also important to note that the Ohio Department of Education decreased the amount of time students will spend on Reading and Math testing by as much as 50% from previous tests in 2014-2015. For more information on specific times for each test, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/testingtimereduction>
- ♦ **Spring 2016 Grade Levels Assessed** - Assessment calendars posted at [www.wcsoh.org](http://www.wcsoh.org)  
**ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL:** All students in grades 3-8 will be assessed in Reading and Mathematics. In addition, Science will be assessed in grades 5 and 8, and Social Studies in grades 4 and 6.  
**HIGH SCHOOL:** Students scheduled to graduate in 2018 and beyond who are currently enrolled in English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, and/or American History are required to take Ohio's State Tests. High school students taking American Government this year are again required to take the Ohio's State Test in Social Studies. However, students taking IB or AP American Government are not required to take the American Government State test if taking the IB or AP exam test. Students scheduled to graduate in 2016 and 2017 are required to take and pass the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) in Reading, Mathematics, Writing, Science, and Social Studies. The OGT will be a paper/pencil exam administered in late October 2015 and March 2016.
- ♦ **Preparation for Assessments** - As Ohio's State Tests are intended to be taken online, for more than a year, Westerville City School district personnel have been identifying and planning for the technology and resources needed for the online delivery of statewide assessments at school. This year, all students will take State assessments online except for those students completing the OGT. Exceptions to online test administration also will be made for identified special needs students as indicated within their IEP, identified and selected English Language Learners, or other recognized special circumstances.
- ♦ **Helpful Web Links** - Parents are encouraged to visit the following web link with their child(ren) as AIR continues to add resources, sample items, tutorials for taking online assessments, and practice tests: <http://oh.portal.airast.org/ocba/>