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Parents and Guardians;

Beginning on March 16, 2015 students in grades 3 through 10 will participate in a new state assessment called PARCC. This stands for The Partnership for Readiness for College and Career and will replace the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP). The NECAP system has been used in Rhode Island since 2005 to measure overall student proficiency in English Language Arts and mathematics. As we are all aware, assessments play a vital role in the instructional process. Assessments provide important information to parents and families about the progress their children are making in school, they provide teachers with information about what support their students may need, and they provide all of us with information about whether our schools are making progress.

Coventry Schools expects all students to participate in state assessments, which are part of the process of education in Coventry public schools. There is no formal procedure for parents to remove their children from participation in any school activities, including state assessments. Students attending school during days of administration of state assessments, including make-up days, will participate in the assessment process.

PARCC results for 2015 will be considered a baseline. Results will not affect student grades, grade promotion/retention, eligibility for graduation for current juniors or seniors, or current-year teacher evaluations. PARCC results will not be included on student transcripts this year. Personally identifiable student information is not shared with any outside entity, including the federal government. The Rhode Island Department of Education retains sole control over all data and data usage.

If you have a specific question or concern about the new assessment system please contact your student's Principal.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Convery  
Assistant Superintendent

**"Working Together To Improve Our Schools"**

The Coventry School Department is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, sex, race, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability