

# Ohio Achievement Testing Parent Newsletter

- 1. Who will be taking the test?**
  - Grades 3 – 8 will be taking the Ohio Achievement Test.
- 2. When will the test be given?**
  - Currently the testing week will be April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - It is possible that the state will move testing up one week.
- 3. What subjects will be tested?**
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – reading, math, writing
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – reading, math, science, social studies
- 4. Why are they taking the test?**
  - Achievement tests are given by each school district in the state of Ohio to determine the grade-level progress of each child.
- 5. What types of questions will be asked?**
  - Multiple choice, short-answer and extended response.
- 6. How are teachers preparing the students for the test?**
  - Test questions are being modeled after the format of the Ohio Achievement Test (OAT).
  - All departments have developed goals and action plans.
- 7. How can I prepare my child for the test?**
  - Practice tests are available on-line at [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us)
  - Ensure your child answers their homework questions in complete sentences when those responses are required.
  - Please encourage your child to use the full 2 1/2 hours given for each test.
  - During the week of testing, please make sure that your child is getting the appropriate amounts of rest.
- 8. Where can a parent locate content standards or materials?**
  - [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us)
- 9. Where will the students be tested?**
  - Students will be tested in the junior high classrooms in groups of 22 - 25.
- 10. What will be the daily schedule on testing dates?**
  - Testing will occur in the morning, followed by lunches and shortened class periods.
- 11. How does the testing affect my family schedule?**
  - The school day start and end times are not changed.
  - Please avoid any types of appointments or vacations on the mornings of test days.
- 12. Why is it important that students be there during the scheduled testing dates?**
  - Being in attendance during the structured testing dates helps to keep students in a routine and prevents students from missing further class time for make-up tests.
- 13. What if my child misses the test due to illness?**
  - Your child will have the opportunity to make-up their test(s) missed.
  - Please do not send your child to school if they are ill, however, please avoid appointments that can be re-scheduled.

- Students perform better on this type of test if they can follow the routine of all other students.
- 14. How much time will be given for the tests?**
- Each student is allowed 2 1/2 hours each day to take a single test.
- 15. When do we get the results?**
- In mid-June. Families will be notified of those results shortly after the district receives them.
- 16. Will this test affect my child's grades or passing?**
- NO
- 17. What supplies are needed during testing?**
- Approved calculators (math portion only).
  - An approved list of calculators can be found at [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us),
  - At least two, sharpened #2 pencils.
- 18. How does testing results affect the school's rating?**
- Each test at both grade levels has a minimum passage rate of 75%. The number of subjects that are passed at each grade level in large part determine a school building's rating.
- 19. What was our school's rating last year?**
- AWJH passed 6 out of 7 subject areas tested, which resulted in a building rating of Effective.
- 20. Are any students exempt?**
- All students are required by the state of Ohio to take the OAT.

**\*It is a goal of the Junior High School that we improve student attendance on all 4 testing dates this compared to last year. The student body will be rewarded if this goal is met. We are currently exploring options for that reward as well as defining the exact % goal.**

**\*We feel students perform at their best when they can take the test in a normal testing environment. However, if your child is ill, please do not send your child to school and they will have an opportunity to re-take the test when they feel 100%.**

**A. W. J. H.**

**P**ERSONAL **R**ESPONSIBILITY **I**N **D**EVELOPING **E**XCELLENCE