

**MEEKER SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1**  
**MEEKER, COLORADO 81641**

**Chris Selle**  
Superintendent  
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September 12, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians of 3rd through 11th Grade Students,

The Meeker School District will again administer state-mandated standardized tests during the 2016-2017 school year. Because administration of these tests are required by state and federal law, failure to give them could result in negative consequences for individual schools and/or the school district. While we plan to continue engaging in efforts to improve the Colorado's mandatory assessment program, we will also comply with the current laws as written.

We know that testing requires time, and that time diverts students and teachers away from other learning activities. Please understand that efforts have been made locally, at a state level, and at a federal level to minimize the disruptions to normal learning caused by testing. Attached to this letter is an assessment calendar that outlines which tests will be given and the estimated time required for each test. This calendar includes both state and federal mandated assessments as well as district-wide assessments that have been, or will be, administered in the 2016-2017 school year.

While administration of the assessments is required by law, we encourage parents to determine what is in the best interest of their own children. This position was supported by the State Board of Education and the Colorado Legislature in 2015 when both took action to prevent school districts from being penalized for parental refusal to take the mandated state tests. The district administration, school board, and teachers sympathize with past frustrations surrounding these tests. Should you wish to opt your student out of the upcoming state mandated tests, please fill out the form on the reverse of this page and return it to the district office. Please be aware that this opt out is allowed only for state mandated assessments.

Also, please be aware that, though the district cannot be penalized for parental refusal, the test results will be used by the the Colorado Department of Education, as well as private entities, to evaluate our schools and to determine accreditation ratings. Furthermore, the majority of our teachers have indicated that they find value in the data provided through state mandated assessments. Therefore, it is of great benefit to the district to have all students take the tests so that the data we receive is a representative demonstration of student learning. We ask your help by encouraging your child to take the tests seriously and to put forth his or her best effort.

If you would like further information about the tests and the State mandates, please feel free to contact me. I also encourage you contact to our legislators to express any observations or concerns. In the meantime, please help us provide an efficient and positive testing environment when the time comes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chris Selle'.

Chris Selle  
Superintendent  
Meeker School District

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I am opting my student(s) out from taking the following state mandated tests (please check all boxes that apply):

- All state mandated assessments (PARCC, CMAS, PSAT, SAT)
- PARCC Mathematics
- PARCC English/Language Arts
- CMAS Science
- CMAS Social Studies
- PSAT
- SAT

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Print: Student(s) Name(s)

I understand that this opt out is applicable only to the 2016-2017 school year.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name Signature Date

**If you wish to opt your child out of state assessments, please return this form to the Meeker School District Office no later than March 1, 2017**

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**The Meeker School District 2016-17 Formal Assessment Calendar**

**CMAS (ELA & Math) Grades 3-9**

**\*Language Arts**

3rd-5th(Session 1)-April 11; 90 min.  
3rd-5th(Session 2)-April 12; 75 to 90 min.  
3rd-5th(Session 3)-April 13; 90 min.

6th-8th(Session 1)-April 3; 110 min.  
6th-8th(Session 2)-April 4; 110 min.  
6th-8th(Session 3)-April 5; 90 min.  
9th(Session 1)-March 28; 110 min.  
9th(Session 2)-March 28; 110 min.  
9th(Session 3)-March 30; 110 min.

**CMAS (Science & Social Studies) Grades 4,5,8, 11**

**\*Science**

5th(Session 1)-April 18; 80 min.  
5th(Session 2)-April 19; 80 min.  
5th(Session 3)-April 20; 80 min.  
8th(Session 1)-April 10; 80 min.  
8th(Session 2)-April 11; 80 min.  
8th(Session 3)-April 12; 80 min.  
11th(Session 1)-April 21; 60 min.  
11th(Session 2)-April 25; 60 min.  
11th(Session 3)-April 26; 60 min.

**\*Math**

3rd-5th(Session 1)-March 30; 60 min.  
3rd-5th(Session 2)-April 4; 60 min.  
3rd-5th(Session 3)-April 5; 60 min.  
3rd-5th(Session 4)-April 6; 60 min.  
6th-8th(Session 1)-April 3; 80 min.  
6th-8th(Session 2)-April 4; 80 min.  
6th-8th(Session 3)-April 5; 80 min.  
9th(Session 1)-March 28; 90 min.  
9th(Session 2)-March 29; 90 min.  
9th(Session 3)-March 30; 90 min.

**\*\*Social Studies**

7th(Session 1)-April 10; 80 min.  
7th(Session 2)-April 11; 80 min.  
7th(Session 3)-April 12; 80 min.

**\*\*ACCESS for ELL's;** Jan. 9 – Feb. 10; 4 hours

**\*\*\*NWEA (Reading & Math) Grades K-10;** Aug. 29 - Sept 30; Jan 9 - Feb. 23; April 24 - May 18; 40 min.

**\*\*SAT (Grade 11);** April 11 - 4 hours

**\*\*PSAT-(Grade 10);** April 12 - 4 hours

**\*\*DIBELS (Grades K-3);** Aug. 29- Sept. 8, Dec. 5-Dec. 15, May 1-May 11; 20 min. each session

**\*\*\*DIBELS (Grades 4 & 5);** Sept. 6- Sept. 15, Dec. 5-Dec. 15, May 1-May 11; 20 min. each session

**\*\*\*Naglieri (Grade 2);** Jan. 18; 30 min.

*\* Federal Mandate*

*\*\* State Mandate*

*\*\*\* District Mandate*

*All dates and times are subject to change.*

*“Excellence in All We Do”*