

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

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**Kathy Collins**  
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August 29, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians of Meeker School District Students,

The Meeker School District will again administer state-mandated standardized tests during the 2017-2018 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 2017-2018 school year.

While administration of the assessments is required by law and our school district has achieved Accredited with Distinction two years in a row, which is based primarily on the results of these tests, 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.

The district may or may not be penalized for parental refusal, which is different from past years when district could not be penalized for parental refusal. Federal action in the coming months will determine if our district can be penalized for parental refusals. Regardless, 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 to contact 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 2017-2018 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, 2018**

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**The Meeker School District 2017-18 Formal Assessment Calendar**

**CMAS (ELA & Math) Grades 3-8**

**\*Language Arts**

3rd-5th(Session 1)-April 10; 90 min.  
3rd-5th(Session 2)-April 11; 75 to 90 min.  
3rd-5th(Session 3)-April 12; 90 min.

6th-8th(Session 1)-April 2; 110 min.  
6th-8th(Session 2)-April 3; 110 min.  
6th-8th(Session 3)-April 4; 90 min.

**\*Math**

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

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

**\*Science**

5th(Session 1)-April 17; 80 min.  
5th(Session 2)-April 18; 80 min.  
5th(Session 3)-April 19; 80 min.  
8th(Session 1)-April 9; 80 min.  
8th(Session 2)-April 10; 80 min.  
8th(Session 3)-April 11; 80 min.  
11th(Session 1)-March 27; 60 min.  
11th(Session 2)-March 28; 60 min.  
11th(Session 3)-March 29; 60 min.

**\*\*Social Studies**

11<sup>th</sup>(Session 1)-March 27; 80 min  
11<sup>th</sup>(Session 2)-March 28; 80 min  
11<sup>th</sup>(Session 3)-March 29; 80 min

**\*\*ACCESS for ELL's; Jan. 8 – Feb. 9; 4 hours**

**\*\*\*NWEA (Reading, Language, Math & Science) Grades K-10; Aug 28 - Sep 28; Jan 15 – Mar 15; Apr 23 - May 17; 40 min.**

**\*\*PSAT-(Grade 9); April 10, 11 or 12 - 4 hours**

**\*\*PSAT-(Grade 10); April 10, 11 or 12 - 4 hours**

**\*\*SAT (Grade 11); April 10 - 4 hours**

**\*\*DIBELS (Grades K-3); Aug. 28- Sept. 7, Dec. 4-Dec. 14, April 30-May 10; 20 min. each session**

**\*\*\*DIBELS (Grades 4 & 5); Sept. 5- Sept. 14, Dec. 4-Dec. 14, April 30-May 10; 20 min. each session**

**\*\*\*Naglieri (Grade 2); Jan. 17; 30 min.**

**\*\*\*Naglieri (Grade 6); Jan. 18, 30 min**

**\* Federal Mandate**

**\*\* State Mandate**

**\*\*\* District Mandate**

**All dates and times are subject to change.**

*“Excellence in All We Do”*