

Dear Parents and Guardians of our Century Middle School students,

As you know, testing season is upon us. This year we will be administering the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) and CMAS (Colorado Measures of Academic Success) for Social Studies (7th grade only) and Science (8th Grade only). The PARCC and CMAS assessments focus on students' abilities to apply a broad range of concepts rather than memorizing facts. Please review the schedule below.

**HEADPHONES:** We need your help! The ELA (English Language Arts) tests require students to have headphones.

**\*\*\*Please have your student bring a pair of headphones or ear buds during their grade-level's ELA testing days.\*\*\***

2017 PARCC/CMAS Assessment Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
March 13	14 <b>6th Grade</b> 8:30 - 10:54 ELA 1 1:27 - 3:45 Math 1	15	16 <b>7th Grade</b> 10:27 - 12:48 ELA 1 1:24 - 3:45 Math 1	17 <b>8th Grade</b> 8:30 - 10:51 Math 1 11:26 - 1:47 ELA 1
20 <b>7th Grade</b> 10:27 - 12:48 ELA 2 1:24 - 3:45 Math 2	21 <b>8th Grade</b> 8:30 - 10:51 Math 2 11:26 - 1:47 ELA 2	22	23 <b>6th Grade</b> 8:30 - 10:54 Math 2 1:27 - 3:45 ELA 2	24
27 Spring Break	28 Spring Break	29 Spring Break	30 Spring Break	31 Spring Break
April 3 No School	4	5	6 <b>8th Grade</b> 8:30 - 10:51 ELA 3 11:26 - 1:47 Math 3	7 <b>7th Grade</b> 10:27 - 12:48 ELA 3 1:24 - 3:45 Math 3
10	11 <b>6th Grade</b> 8:30 - 10:54 ELA 3 1:27 - 3:45 Math 3	12 <b>8th Grade</b> 8:30 - 10:17 SCI 1 10:52 - 12:43 SCI 2	13 <b>7th Grade</b> 10:27 - 12:48 SS 1 1:24 - 3:45 SS 2	14 <b>7th/8th Grade</b> 8th - 8:30 - 10:51 SCI 3 7th - 1:24 - 3:45 SS 3

### Assessment Tips for Parents/Guardians

In order to help your student do his/her very best on this year's PARCC/CMAS, we would like to offer the following tips:

- Attendance on test days needs to be the **highest priority**. Please do everything possible **not** to schedule doctor/dentist or any other appointments on these days that will take your student out of school.
- Please make every effort to have your student be **on time** to school during the testing window. We operate under a tight schedule and start testing moments after the school day starts!
- Students perform better when taking tests with their own group/class rather than at a make-up session with an unfamiliar teacher. Students having to attend make-up sessions will also miss valuable instructional time and have make-up work to complete at home from the classes missed.
- Students need to get plenty of rest on the nights before the tests. Going to bed at a reasonable time, or even a bit earlier than normal is advised. Make sure your student has plenty of time to get ready in the morning and isn't rushed or stressed about getting to school on time.

- Breakfast! Have your student eat a healthy breakfast that includes protein. Testing is rigorous. Eating a good breakfast gives the brain the energy it needs. Heavy foods and sugary foods tend to make students sleepy and are not the best choices.
- Make sure that students bring and wear their eyeglasses/contacts if they need them. The PARCC/CMAS requires a lot of reading. Also make sure that your student takes his/her regular medications.
- Provide your student with lots of encouragement and help us reinforce that this test is important! The test is a snapshot of how the student is doing on that particular day; so starting it out with a positive attitude will set the tone for the entire day.
- Try to avoid adding too much pressure, but do encourage your student to do his/her very best on the test and to answer each and every question – even if he or she has to guess since there is not a penalty for wrong answers. Any additional testing time should be used to recheck answers. Talk to your student each day about how the test went.

Thank you for your support in making this a successful PARCC test.