

Southern Local School District

38095 State Route 39
Salineville, Ohio 43945
Fax 330-679-0193
330-679-2305 School



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Robert Dowling
Rodney Edmiston
Patty Exline
Linda Morris
John Sawyer
Gregory Sabbato, Treasurer

Tom Cunningham, Superintendent
Southern Local Board of Education 330-679-2343
Jay Kiger, Principal
Southern Local Jr./Sr. High School 330-679-2305
Ron Sines, Associate Principal
Southern Local Jr./Sr. High School 330-679-2305
Rich Wright, Elementary Principal
Southern Local Elementary School 330-679-2305
Emily Brinker, Assistant Principal/Curriculum Director
Southern Local Elementary School 330-679-2305
Kristy Sampson, Federal Programs Coordinator 330-679-2343
Laura Krulik, Special Ed. Coordinator 330-679-2305

February 20, 2020

Re: Grades Three, Four, Five and Six AIR/Ohio's Next Generation Online Assessments in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science.

Dear Parents and Guardians of students in grades three, four, five, and six,

On March 24 Southern Local Elementary School students will begin completing the AIR/Ohio's Next Generation Online Assessments in grades three, four, five and six. The Next Generation Assessments replaced the Ohio Achievement Assessments during the 2014-2015 school year.

Students in grade three will complete the ELA and Math tests using the pencil paper format. Students in grades four, five and six will complete the ELA and Math tests using the online format. Students in grade five will also complete the online Science test. All AIR Assessments are divided into two parts. Our students will complete Part 1 and Part 2 of the ELA, Math and Science assessments on separate days.

It is important that our students demonstrate their academic skill and knowledge by putting forth their best effort when completing the assessments in ELA, Math and Science. These tests are very important in that they provide the school and the home with an accurate assessment of the knowledge that our students have mastered in each of the areas in which they were tested. There are many ways in which the school and the home can work together to assist our students in maintaining their focus and putting forth their best effort.

Each day we will encourage our students to put forth their best effort and we will remind the students of the importance of carefully listening to all directions that pertain to the assessment. At home parents may assist their children by encouraging them to put forth a maximum effort on each test. Parents should set a reasonable bedtime for their children so they will be fresh and alert in the morning.

In order to aid in the administration of our state assessment program one hundred percent attendance for all students is a goal which will increase the test taking efficiency for each student. Students will complete the assessments in the morning. We are asking that parents schedule all appointments at a time that will not conflict with your child's test schedule. If a student is absent for one of these assessments, the assessment that was missed will be made up the next day the student is in school provided that another assessment has not been scheduled for that day.

As a parent you will receive a copy of your child's test results. Ohio's Next Generation Assessment results are scheduled to arrive in Ohio's school districts in late July of 2020. All grade three students completed the Ohio ELA/Reading Assessment in October and they will complete the ELA/Reading Assessment again on March 24 and March 25. For all grade three students, the highest score will be the score that is reported to the Ohio Department of Education.

As reminder to parents of grade three students, during the 2012-2013 school year the Ohio Department of Education implemented The Third Grade Reading Guarantee. As part of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee one of the legislative requirements state that beginning with the 2013-2014 school year all students scoring below the Not on Track/Required Promotion Level score on the third grade ELA/Reading Assessment must be retained. The Ohio State Board of Education has determined the On Track/Promotion level requirement for the third grade ELA/Reading Assessment for the 2019-2020 school year is a scale score of 683 and above on the combined ELA/Reading assessment or a score of 46 and above on the Reading sub score. Students who scored below 683 and 46 on the October test are Not on Track and have not met

the promotion requirement. On January 23 I mailed the October test results that indicated if your child was On Track or Not on Track in ELA/Reading. Please keep this in mind as we prepare for the March 24 and March 25 ELA/Reading test.

All grade three students who did not score at or above 683 or 46 on the October administration of the grade three ELA/Reading Assessment will have another opportunity to complete the Reading Assessment on March 24 and March 25. In June the school will receive their download data from the March assessment. Parents of all students who do not score at or above 683 or 46 will be notified. Summer Reading intervention will be offered to all grade three students who have not scored at or above 683 or 46. The Summer Reading intervention will be held prior to the administration of the July 2020 state Reading Assessment. The Summer ELA/Reading assessment is scheduled for Monday, July 6 Testing will begin at 9:30 AM.

Grade three students who scored below 683 and 46 on the October state ELA/Reading Assessment will also have the opportunity to meet the On Track/Promotion Reading requirement by scoring 615 or above on the CTB McGraw Hill Ohio Alternative Reading Assessment. Grade three students who scored below 683 and 46 on the October ELA/Reading Assessment will have three opportunities to reach 615 on the Alternative Reading Assessment. The dates for the Alternative Reading Assessment are March 10, May 12 and June 1. Parents of grade three students need to keep in mind that once your child scores at or above 683 or 46 on the state ELA/Reading Assessment or at or above 615 on the Alternative Reading Assessments your child has met the Third Grade Reading Guarantee On Track/Promotion requirement.

Note: The Ohio Department of Education has established specific rules/guidelines that apply to the administration of the AIR state assessments in grades three through eight. One of the rules/guidelines that all parents and students need to be aware of pertains to electronic devices during testing. The rule states: All electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, etc.) must be collected from students prior to the test administration. Students must be told that electronic devices are prohibited during the test administration. Use of an electronic device during a test administration is a security violation. Southern Local Elementary School strongly recommends that students leave all electronic devices at home on school days during which they will be completing the Ohio Next Generation assessments.

I have included a copy of our Spring 2019 testing schedule for your convenience. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Ohio's AIR Next Generation assessments or Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee please contact me by calling the elementary school. You can reach me at 330-679-2301 or 330-679-0281, extension 4019. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Larry Rudloff
Guidance Counselor

The Spring state test schedule for grades three, four, five and six will be as follows.

Tuesday, March 24: 9:30 AM English Language Arts Part 1

Wednesday, March 25: 9:30 AM English Language Arts Part 2

Tuesday, March 31: 9:30 AM Mathematics Part 1

Wednesday, April 1: 9:30 AM Mathematics Part 2

Tuesday, April 7: 9:30 AM Grade 5 Science Part 1

Wednesday, April 8: 9:30 AM Grade 5 Science Part 2

