

Southern Local School District

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January 5, 2021

Parents of fifth grade students,

On February 1 and 2 our fifth grade students will complete the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). On February 3-9 students will complete the Iowa Achievement Test. These tests are used to meet the gifted identification requirement that is mandated by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE).

At this time students are schedule to return to the classroom on January 19. At that time we may have students who continue to work at home as online students. Students who will continue as online students once other students return to school can also complete the tests on the scheduled test days if parents would like their child to do so.

The ODE requires that all students complete the test in a classroom setting. Parents of online students who would like their child to complete these tests will be required to bring their child to school each test day. Parents of online students will pick their child up at the conclusion of testing each day. Online students should be ready for pick up approximately fifteen minutes after each test has been completed. Please refer to the test schedule to determine your child's pick up time each day. All students will wear a face covering during testing.

In these uncertain times we are never sure what the next day may bring. If there are school schedule changes after you receive this letter that result in students not returning to school on January 19 or prevent the gifted testing from beginning on February 1 I will notify you by email.

It is important that our students demonstrate their academic skills by exerting the maximum effort possible when completing each test. There are many ways in which the home and school may assist our students in maintaining their focus when completing these assessments. The school will encourage our students to put forth their best effort when completing each test. We will also remind the students of the importance of carefully listening to, and reading all directions that pertain to each test.

At home parents may assist their children by encouraging them to put forth their best effort on all parts of the 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 each test one hundred percent attendance for all students is a goal which will increase the efficiency for each student. Because each test will be administered in the morning, we are asking that parents schedule all medical appointments after 12:00.

If you should have any questions or concerns regarding the Cognitive Abilities Test or the Iowa Achievement Test please contact Larry Rudloff by calling 330-679-0281 or 330-679-2301, extension 4019 or by email at larry.rudloff@omeresanet.net.

The school is requesting that parents of online students who would like their child to complete the tests contact Mr. Rudloff no later than Monday, January 25. This will give the school time to organize the needed number of test books for each student.

Individual student home reports from the test will be mailed to parents shortly after they arrive at the elementary school.

For your convenience I have attached the CogAT and Iowa test schedule that our fifth grade students will follow. Testing is scheduled to begin at 9:15 each day.

CogAT 7 Ability Test

February 1 CogAT 7 Session 1: 30 minutes
February 2 CogAT 7 Session 2: 30 minutes
CogAT 7 Session 3: 30 minutes

Iowa (E) Achievement Test

February 3 Reading Part 1: 30 minutes
Reading Part 2: 30 minutes
February 4 Written Expression: 40 minutes
February 5 Mathematics Part 1: 30 minutes
Mathematics Part 2: 30 Minutes
February 8 Science: 35 minutes
Social Studies: 35 minutes
February 9 Vocabulary: 15 minutes
Spelling: 10 minutes
Capitalization: 10 minutes
Punctuation: 10 minutes
Computation: 20 minutes

Sincerely,

Larry Rudloff
Guidance Counselor