



Portsmouth Public Schools
Office of the Assistant Superintendent
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
3651 Hartford Street • Portsmouth, Virginia 23707-1205
(757) 393-8556

September, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians of Students in Grades 3-8:

Legislation was passed in the 2021 General Assembly (HB2027 and SB1357) requiring the implementation of growth assessments in reading and mathematics for students in grades 3-8. In 2021-2022, the legislation calls for the administration of a fall assessment and a spring assessment and these will replace the SOL tests our students usually take.

Students in Portsmouth are expected to take a reading and math growth assessment Sept. 27- Oct. 15 based on the previous grade level's content. *Middle school students enrolled in Algebra I, Geometry or Algebra II in spring 2021 or fall 2021 will not take a math growth assessment.* Growth assessments will range from 17-25 items. **There is no passing or failing score for the growth assessments.**

All growth assessments will be administered online. All virtual students will need to also take this assessment at their home school. Transportation will be provided for your child or you may wish to provide transportation. Your child's home school will contact you to provide testing dates and arrange transportation. If your child has not previously participated in online testing, he/she will participate in a brief tutorial to become familiar with online testing procedures and tools. Online practice is available from any computer that has access to the Internet.

Please note that cell phones, electronic devices, and other unauthorized materials are not permitted during testing. **It is expected that your child will bring his/her Chromebook to school on all testing days.** The Chromebook should be in good working order and fully charged each day. We are looking forward to all of our 3rd through 8th grade students taking this online assessment.

As with any new endeavor, you may have some questions. Please feel free to contact Mr. Derrick Nottingham (derrick.nottingham@portsk12.com) or Dr. Camilla Ferebee (camilla.ferebee@portsk.12.com) or you may contact your child's school.

We are excited to welcome your child back to school!

Sincerely,

Anita Wynn, D.A.
Chief Academic Officer

Cc: Dr. Elie Bracy, Division Superintendent
Dr. Michael Cromartie, Chief School Officer
Derrick Nottingham, Director of Research and Evaluation
Dr. Camilla Ferebee, Data Analysis and Support Coordinator
Heidi M. Lewis, Executive Principal