

FAIRFIELD LUDLOWE HIGH SCHOOL

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Mr. Greg C. Hatzis, Headmaster

February 27, 2014

To Parents and Guardians of 10th grade students:

Re: CAPT Science

As you may be aware, the testing program mandated by the State of Connecticut is in transition. The CAPT in reading, writing, and mathematics is being eliminated and replaced by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) test in mathematics and English for 11th grade students. The CAPT for science remains, and it will be given to our sophomores on March 13 and 14, 2014. Students cannot be exempted from this assessment.

The science test assesses students' understanding of important scientific concepts from five different content strands as well as their abilities to apply those concepts to real-world issues. In addition, there is a major focus on scientific inquiry and using scientific reasoning to solve problems. The test includes a combination of multiple choice and short-answer questions.

By law, all local and regional boards of education are required to have graduation requirements for high school students. While the CAPT cannot be used as the sole criterion for graduation, results from the test must be included when districts are assessing whether students have the basic skills and knowledge necessary for graduation. A minimum score of "Proficient" on the science CAPT is a requirement for graduation.

We are confident that the students are well prepared for the test and, if they apply themselves diligently, they will meet the standard for graduation. The students will receive the results of the test in the fall. Those students who do not reach the standard required for graduation will work on a portfolio with next year's science teacher and will also have another opportunity to retake the test to achieve the required standard.

Students need to come to school at the regular time and report to their testing location at 7:30 am. Testing locations will be posted by all house offices and the main office prior to the testing dates. If you have questions about the CAPT science test or about graduation requirements please contact your student's counselor.

Sincerely,



Greg C. Hatzis
Headmaster