

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As part the State of Connecticut's assessment plan to measure the progress of students as well as our district's adoption of the academic standards promoted by the State Department of Education, we will be implementing the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessment Field Test to all students in Grade 11.

Our Science department has been receiving professional development in the NGSS for the past few years and implementing lessons related to the standards. The Science Department will be presenting a new Science curriculum to the Board of Education later this spring and all the courses were developed with the NGSS in mind.

The state requires assessments in the subject areas of English language arts and mathematics using the Smarter Balanced Assessment at the elementary and middle school levels, and in Grade 11 using the SAT, which can also be used as a college entrance exam. As you know, the students will be taking the SAT on March 21. The state also requires assessments in science in Grades 5, 8, and 11, using the NGSS Assessment Field Test. The NGSS Assessment Field Test is necessary to evaluate new items aligned to the NGSS for use on future test forms. This new test is replacing the former CAPT science assessment. Please note that this year since the science test is a field test, there will be no district, school, or student results reported.

Students in Grade 11 will take the NGSS Assessment Field Test by house: Warner House on March 26, Webster House on March 28 and Wright House on March 29. Since the NGSS Assessment Field Test is administered on computers, students will test in a computer lab assigned by homeroom. Students who have a 504 or IEP will receive their respective accommodations.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Montorsi  
Director of Pupil Services & Counseling