



BETHLEHEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Shelli J. Roberts, Principal

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Each year, students in grades 3 through 8 participate in the New Hampshire Statewide Assessment System (NH SAS) or Performance Assessment of Competency Education (PACE). Students who have the most significant cognitive disabilities are eligible to take the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Assessment, as designed in their active individualized education program (IEP). Please click on the link below for the 2019 assessment window.

https://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/documents/2018_19_nh_assessment_calendar.pdf

This year, your child will take the following assessments, depending on state requirements at grade level and determined need:

- PACE for English language arts/writing in grades 4, 5, and 6, mathematics in grades 3, 5 and 6, and science in grade 5
- DLM for English language arts/writing and mathematics in grades 3 through 6 and science in grade 5
- NH SAS for English language arts/writing in grade 3, mathematics in grade 4 and science in grade 5

Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 1111(b)(2) and New Hampshire law, RSA 193-C:6 requires each school district in the State to implement a set of high-quality academic assessments that includes, at a minimum, assessments in mathematics, reading/language arts and science to be administered in each of grades 3-8 and not less than once during grades 10-12; and in science not less than once during grades 3-5, grades 6-9, and grades 10-12. Furthermore, ESSA sections 1111(b)(2)(B) require State assessments to be the “same academic assessments used to measure the achievement of all public elementary school and secondary school students in the State,” and provide for the participation in such assessments to all students.

State assessments are an important part of a student’s core educational program. They provide an evaluation of student mastery of content and skills in various academic areas, serve as one tool for measuring the degree to which students are on track to graduate high school and be college- and career-ready, and help inform future instruction in the classroom. Along with student work on classroom assignments, projects, essays, and local assessments, state assessment results give teachers and you, the parents, important information about where students are on their path toward academic success. If you choose to exempt your student from the state assessment (permitted in RSA 193-C:6), you must submit a form to the school the student attends. Please contact [Sue Greenlaw](#) to receive a copy of the exemption form. Please understand that if you choose to exempt your student from the assessment, no scores or summary of individual student performance, based on the statewide assessment, will be provided to you or your student.

“CHILDHOOD SHOULD BE A JOURNEY – NOT A RACE”

The testing times for the NH SAS, PACE and DLM are as follows:

Grades 3-6	NH SAS for ELA/Writing/ Mathematics (hours)	DLM for ELA/Writing Mathematics (minutes)	PACE for ELA/Writing Mathematics (hours)
English Language Arts/Reading	2:00	30 - 45 minutes	2:00
English Language Arts/Writing	1:30	30 – 45 minutes	1:30
Mathematics	2:00	35 – 60 minutes	2:00
Grades 5	NH SAS for Science (hours)	DLM for Science (minutes)	
Science	2:00	45 – 135 minutes	2:00

Student results for the NH SAS (reading/writing, mathematics and science) are generally available within 10 days upon the student completing the test. Bethlehem Elementary School will send a student’s Individual Score Report home as soon as possible after receiving results, and certainly before the end of the school year.

DLM scores will be released to districts in early July. Schools will then send home to each family the Individual Score Report for each student who took the DLM assessment as soon as possible upon receiving the results.

Students who participate in PACE for accountability will receive score results from their individual districts in late September or early November.

Parents may access training tests for the NH SAS by going to the portal at <https://nh.portal.airast.org/training-tests.stml>.

School districts that are using PACE for accountability distribute information about this innovative assessment to parents and other community and school leaders throughout the school year.

If you have any questions related to this assessment administration, you may contact Sue Greenlaw at sgreenlaw@bethlehem.k12.nh.us. Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him/her to do his/her best during this assessment administration.

Sincerely,

Shelli Roberts