



Central Office
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Elementary School
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(518) 895-2310

JR/SR High School
163 School Drive
Delanson, NY 12053
(518) 895-3000

"To be a socially responsible school community where learning and the pursuit of excellence are valued."

To: DCS Parents of Students in Grades 3-8

From: Chris Crowley, Superintendent *C. Crowley*

Date: March 23, 2017

NYS Grades 3-8 tests will be starting next week. It has been a struggle and implementation was disastrous by the NYS Education Department. Teachers, administrators, students and parents were frustrated by the entire roll out process. Many parents opted children out and often educators felt the same way.

The new NYS Education Commissioner is doing her best to "right the ship" at this time. I would respectfully request that parents allow their children to take the tests now. Test questions are now being released and that helps teachers to know where their students are struggling or where they may need to reteach particular topics. The more students that we get data back on, the more it will help their teachers.

At the very least, if you are helping the district by having your child take these tests, please ask your child to do their best. The worst thing that can happen for teachers and the district is to have the student write his/her name on the test and then either not try at all, refuse to finish or make a design with their responses on the answer sheet. All of those scores count against the teachers and the district. Although NYS has halted student scores reflecting on individual teachers, the teachers and administrators were mandated by NYSED to select some state exams to collectively count in the same way for all teachers and building principals in the district on their evaluations.

The administrators and teachers are working diligently to make your children as successful in school as we can. We are asking your support to have your child take the tests seriously. If you still do not want your child to take the test, please do not send them in to start the test and not finish it or do their best. As always, we appreciate your continued support as we work through this process.

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Auto-Attendant Numbers

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