Dear Parents and Guardians:

Students in grades 3-8 participate in state assessments each year. State assessments measure how students are learning the state standards. Format and timing of state assessments vary by grade level and content area, as noted in the table below. These include:

- Spring Standards of Learning (SOL) standardized tests in reading, mathematics, and science, including an integrated reading and writing (IRW) component;
- Ongoing local alternative assessments (LAAs) completed as part of classroom instruction in science, and social studies;
- SOL-aligned growth assessments completed as part of classroom instruction in mathematics and reading

| Grade | SOL Content Areas Tested (Spring) | LAA Content Areas Tested (Ongoing) | Growth Content Areas Tested (Fall, Winter, Spring) |
|-------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 3 | Reading, Mathematics | Science, Social Studies | Math and Reading |
| 4 | Reading, Mathematics | Social Studies | Math and Reading |
| 5 | Science, Reading with IRW, Mathematics | Not applicable | Math and Reading |
| 6 | Reading, Mathematics | Social Studies | Math and Reading |
| 7 | Reading, Mathematics | Social Studies | Math and Reading |
| 8 | Science, Reading with IRW, Mathematics | Social Studies | Math and Reading |

More information about these assessments can be found on the webpage: SOL Tests in Elementary and Middle Schools (https://www.fcps.edu/node/42716). The Grade Level Tests webpage (https://www.fcps.edu/node/50045) provides information by grade level about the divisionwide assessment schedule and reporting method for each required assessment in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). School staff will contact you with the specific dates your student is scheduled to take the standardized SOL assessments. If you have questions about state assessments, contact your student's teacher or the school test coordinator.

SOL Parent/Guardian Permission to Retest Form

The Virginia Board of Education allows elementary and middle school students who fail their spring Standards of Learning (SOL) tests by a narrow margin to retake the test before the end of the school year. Retesting is available when a student fails their first SOL attempt with a score of 375-399. (A score of 400 is considered passing for SOL tests.) *Note that retests are not offered for the integrated reading and writing (IRW) component of the grade 5 and grade 8 SOL reading tests.* A decision *not* to allow retesting will not impact your student's course grade or academic record.

Parent/guardian permission is required for the school to retest any student in grades 3-8. If you believe that your student would benefit from a second opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills on the spring SOL test, complete this permission form and return it to the school.

| | Directions: Return this permission form to your student's teacher or the school test coordinator no later than A form must be returned for each student in grades 3-8. | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------|---------------|--|--|--|
| Student | Name | FCPS ID # | _ Grade Level | | | |
| Parent's/Guardian's Name (Printed) | | | | | | |
| Parent's | /Guardian's Signature | | Date | | | |
| | No, do not retest my student if their spring SOL score is between 375 and 399. I understand that this decision will <i>not</i> impact my student's course grade or academic record. | | | | | |
| Y | Yes, provide my student with the opportunity to retake any spring SOL tests if they score between 375 and 399. | | | | | |
| | res, provide my student with the opportunity to retake on between 375 and 399 (see table above for the available | | | | | |