



SUFFOLK PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Dr. John B. Gordon III, Superintendent
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September 12, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

During the 2021-2022 school year, students in Virginia public schools took growth assessments in grades 3-8 reading and mathematics. Legislation passed in the 2021 Virginia General Assembly ([HB2027](#) and [SB1357](#)) required the new assessments to be completed by students in grades 3-8 reading and mathematics to measure growth during the school year.

During the 2022-2023 school year, full implementation of the legislation will occur with assessments in these content areas and grade levels occurring three times during the year: fall, mid-year, and spring. Individual student score reports will be provided with details of how students performed on each test item, but the growth assessments **do not** include a passing/failing score. The focus on these assessments is on identifying what students have already learned as well as the skills they may need additional help with during this school year. The spring growth assessments will be the regularly occurring Standards of Learning tests.

The grades 3-5 reading assessments will be administered on Tuesday, September 20th and the math assessments on Thursday, September 22nd. The fall 2022 assessments will be based on the current grade level content. For example, a grade 4 student will take an assessment based on grade 4 content. The administration of assessments measuring grade level content is intended to identify what has already been learned and to identify the skills they may need additional help with during this school year to enhance instructional growth.

Please contact your child's school if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. John B. Gordon III
Division Superintendent