

Dear Parent/Guardian,

ENGLISH

As per the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), schools will be administering the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the Benchmarks of Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards.

The three FAST progress monitoring windows for the 2023-24 school year are as follows:

Progress Monitoring (PM) 1 is from **August 26, 2024 through September 27, 2024**

Progress Monitoring (PM) 2 is from **December 2, 2024 through January 24, 2025**

Progress Monitoring (PM) 3 is from **May 1, 2025 through May 21, 2025**

*Please contact your child(ren)'s teacher for specific administration dates before each PM window begins.

For more information on the FAST progress monitoring system please review the links below accordingly:

Grades K-2 <https://flfast.org/resources/renaissance-star/renaissance-star>

Grades 3-5 <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/>

If you and/or your child(ren) would like to review FAST reading and/or mathematics sample items, please visit:

<https://flfast.org/families.html>

Ensure to review the following policies with your child(ren) before testing:

§ Electronic Devices—Students are not permitted to access any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing or during breaks (e.g., restroom). If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test may be invalidated.

§ Calculator Policy—For Grades 7–8 FAST Mathematics, approved handheld scientific calculators may be used. For Grade 6 FAST Mathematics, a handheld four-function calculator may be used.

§ Testing Rules Acknowledgment— All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking the box in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.

§ Discussing Test Content after Testing— The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items and passages) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.

§ Working Independently—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated.

§ Testing Accommodations—If students have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan or are English Language Learners (ELLs)/ have recently exited ELL status, please contact the school to discuss any testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.