



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Silver Shores Elementary School
Dr. Jonathan Leff, Principal
1701 SW 160th Avenue
Miramar, FL 33027
(754) 323-7550
jonathan.leff@browardschools.com
<http://www.browardschools.com/silvershores>

The School Board of
Broward County, Florida
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Robert W. Runcie
Superintendent of Schools

Greetings 4th Grade Silver Eagles,

I hope this letter finds you doing exceptionally well and taking excellent care. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the 4th Grade paper-based Florida Standards Assessments in [Writing on Tuesday, April 20, 2021; ELA on Wednesday & Thursday, May 12 & 13, 2021; and Mathematics on Wednesday & Thursday, May 19 & 20, 2021.](#)

Per the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), no remote administrations are available for any statewide summative assessments. The Florida Department of Education (DOE) requires all students present during the testing window to participate in the assessment. Therefore, all students present on any testing or make-up testing days will be required to sit for the assessment. Furthermore, unlike some states, Florida has no "opt-out" policy for state assessments used as the required measures of student achievement for the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. Students not in attendance on day of their test(s) will be marked absent and standard absence reporting procedures will be in effect.

Below is a list of bulleted items that will assist you on testing day to ensure a smooth pick up / drop off as well as general information regarding CDC protocols, items students should bring to school, and testing protocols:

- Our current **Face-to-Face learners** will test with their teachers of record in their classroom. Small Groups for Students with Disabilities will be pulled by support facilitators and administered the assessment in their IEP-driven group size (maintaining a 6' distance between students).
- **eLearners** coming to school for the assessment **MUST ARRIVE BETWEEN 8:00 – 8:15am** so they do not intermingle with **Face-to-Face learners**; they will be escorted to their designated testing room, where they will be testing for the duration. All CDC Guidelines for a safe, sterilized environment will be implemented without question. Please ensure your child wears a face mask every day they come on to campus to test as it is school board policy.
- If an **eLearner** needs to remain on campus until 2:00pm, we will ensure they receive lunch (unless they bring from home) and their PM instruction. They will need to bring their laptops and chargers and remain in their designated testing room to resume virtual instruction. Please let your teacher know in advance if your **eLearner** will bring lunch or receive a lunch from school.
- Please send your child with a jacket, laptop, headphones, charger, and a water bottle on all testing days (if your child is not staying, they do not need their laptop, charger, or headphones).



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

The School Board of
Broward County, Florida

- We will test one subject area per day (there are two days per subject and one day for Writing).
eLearners MUST ARRIVE BETWEEN 8:00 – 8:15am on all scheduled testing days.

The health and safety of all Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) students and staff are among Silver Shores Elementary School's highest priorities. BCPS has deployed personal protective equipment, signage and electrostatic sprayers to all schools to assist with ensuring a safe and secure learning environment for students and teachers. **All students, employees and visitors are expected to complete a daily at home health assessment before leaving for school or work each day. In addition, all students, employees, visitors and vendors are required to wear face coverings, unless medically exempt.** Additional information about the District's health and safety protocols can be found online at <https://www.browardschools.com/coronavirus>.

The goal of statewide assessments is to provide academic achievement and learning gains data to students, parents, teachers, school administrators, and district staff to measure progress and achievement for learners. While no single assessment is the sole determiner of promotion, statewide assessment results are considered for a variety of school-based decisions such as promotion, course placement, and acceptance into magnet programs. **Students who do not participate in mandatory statewide assessments risk the possibility of being placed in remediation the following school year, and other consequences (such as retention) based on the district's Student Progression Plan.** For further information on promotion criteria, please see School Board Policy 6000.1 Student Progression Plan at <https://www.browardschools.com/progressionplan>. Final recommendations for promotion or retention will be made on a wholistic review of the student's academic performance during this school year and their readiness for the following grade level.

For information regarding session lengths for Spring 2021 assessments, please see the [2020–2021 Florida Statewide Grade-Level Assessments Fact Sheet](#).

To help your student become comfortable with the item types and response formats, the following resources are available at <http://www.fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/paper-based-practice-test-materials/>

- Paper-Based Practice Tests and Answer Keys
- Student Presentations

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them.** If your student is found with an electronic device during testing, their test will be invalidated. Please leave your child's device at home.
- **Calculators**—Calculators are not permitted during Grades 3–6 Mathematics tests.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment printed in the student's test and answer book 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



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

The School Board of
Broward County, Florida

administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signing below the statement in their test and answer book.

- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states: “Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items, passages, and prompts) 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. In addition, FDOE employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment, illness), they **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, testing accommodations will be provided for your student. Please contact Mrs. Lauzurique at (754) 323-7575 with any ESE/504 questions or Mrs. Coschignano at (754) 323-7554 for ELL questions.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, please contact Mrs. Coschignano, School Counselor at (754)323-7554. For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at www.fsassessments.org.

Thank you for supporting The Shores and encouraging your student to do their best during Spring 2021 assessments.

Dr. Jonathan Leff
Proud Principal