



BAZOLINE E. USHER/COLLIER-HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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JERRY PARKER, PRINCIPAL

March 22, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On April 26, 2021, we will begin to administer the Georgia Milestones End of Grade (EOG) assessments for the 2020-21 school year. Due to the secure nature of the Georgia Milestones, no virtual options have been made by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE). The assessments must be administered in person, in a secure environment.

Earlier this year, State Superintendent Richard Woods submitted the GaDOE's request for a federal testing and accountability waiver to the US Department of Education (USED). Unfortunately, the request for waiving federal and state testing was denied. Because of this, APS is still required to administer all Milestones assessments. However, Superintendent Woods made it very clear that students who continue to learn virtually should not be required to come to the school for the sole purpose to take the Milestones EOG assessments. This means that although our virtual students are certainly invited to come to school to take the EOGs, by no means are they required. Note that the expectation for students learning in-person is that they will sit for the EOG during their scheduled testing sessions.

Although there are no negative consequences for students who do not participate in the EOG assessment this year, student-level results on the Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade (EOG) assessments may be used by teachers to tailor instruction and intervention opportunities to better meet the needs of your child. Also, the EOG scores are often used to help teachers form small groups for differentiated instruction.

We understand that families may be apprehensive about testing in person, but know that we are taking every precaution to ensure a safe testing environment including but not limited to social distancing, sanitized devices, flexible scheduling, required wearing of PPE, etc.

If you have any questions, please contact your school's test coordinator.

Sincerely,

School Test Coordinator