

New York State Assessments – Information about Test Results

Statement by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Kenneth A. Card, Jr.

Recently, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) released the results of the English Language Arts and Mathematics tests that were administered in April and May 2010. The results show a sharp drop in the percentage of students meeting proficiency statewide and across Long Island. The results for Huntington students show a decline in the percentage of students achieving proficiency as well.

It is important to note that the decline resulted from the State Education Department setting higher standards, and not necessarily from a decline in student or school performance. Commissioner Steiner and the Board of Regents are setting higher expectations for our schools and students, in order to focus on the importance of “College Readiness.”

The State Education Department uses “cut scores” to distinguish performance levels for students on the English Language Arts and Mathematics tests. A cut score of 650 represented proficiency on all of the ELA and Math assessments in the past. However, the new cut scores vary by grade and subject and range from 658 to 668 for proficiency in ELA and from 670 to 684 for proficiency in Math.

Individual Student Reports (ISR)

We have been informed by the Regional Information Center (RIC) at Eastern Suffolk BOCES that “Individual Student Reports (ISR),” also referred to as the “Parent Report” will not be available until mid-September for the Grades 3 – 8 English Language Arts and Mathematics tests. NYSED is changing the wording on the ISRs to reflect the new cut points and AIS rules.

Here in Huntington School District, we remain committed to educating all of our students. The district will use the information from the ELA and Math tests to inform instruction, evaluate curriculum and provide necessary support to students to maximize achievement for all students.