



Dr. Eisa M. Cox, *Superintendent* • Joshua D. Roten, *Chairman* • Dianne Eldreth, *Vice Chairman* • Polly Jones • Dr. Kimberly Simmons • Janet Ward

August 21, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to another school year and our hope is your child is returning refreshed and ready for success. As we strive for continual success of your child, assessment, evaluation and reflection are key components. As one measurement, Ashe County Schools participates in online testing with the purpose to establish a measure of your child's reading, math, and/or science skills for the 2024-25 school year.

All students grade 3 – 8 will participate in the End-of-Grade (EOG) Tests in Reading and Math. Students in grades 5 and 8 will participate in the End-of-Grade Tests in Science. Science EOG scores in grades 5 and 8 will be delayed until August 2025 due to new standards and assessments. Students enrolled in NC Math 1 at the 8th grade level, however, will take the End-of-Course (EOC) Test and the assessment will count as 20% of the students' final grade. These tests will be administered during the last 10 days of the school year. Per state regulation, there is no "opt-out" provision and these tests must be taken online and in-person. Third grade students will participate in the Beginning of the Year Reading Test (BOG3) during the first 2 weeks of school. North Carolina does *NOT* offer a remote option for any state accountability assessment.

All students in grades 9-12 enrolled in Biology, English II, Math I or Math III will participate in the End-of-Course (EOC) Test. These tests will be administered during the final 5 days of the Fall and Spring semesters and the score of the EOC will count 20% of the overall semester grade. All Biology EOC score reporting will be delayed until August 2025 and will not count 20% of the final grade for the 2024-2025 school year. Other state assessments for grades 9-12 include the PreACT for 10th graders, ACT for 11th graders and ACT WorkKeys for eligible 12th grade Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentrators.

Locally, as our students learn and master new skills in reading, math, and science, Check-Ins 2.0 and/or other assessments at grades 3-8 will be administered three times annually. Check-Ins for Biology, English II, Math I and Math III will be given two times each semester.

Select students may participate in Alternate Assessments to the assessments discussed earlier. NCEXTEND 1 in Reading and Math will be offered at grades 3-8, 10, and 11. Science will be offered at grades 5, 8, 10, and 11. The College and Career Readiness assessment is given at grades 10 and 11 as an alternative to the PreACT and ACT. The WIDA Screener will be administered to all K-12 students identified through the home language survey process and The ACCESS for ELLS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLS assessments will be administered to our English Learner (EL) students.

Thank you for your continued support of the Ashe County Schools Accountability Program. Families will be reminded of these events through school communications. You can find Ashe County Schools 2024-2025 testing calendar located on the district website by clicking Departments and selecting Accountability. Please reach out to your child's assistant principal if you have any questions.

Have a great year!

Earl Pennington
Director of Accountability
Ashe County Schools