



VALLEY RIDGE ACADEMY

3/15/2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your distance learning child is required take the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). The following chart identifies each grade and required assessments:

Grade	Assessment Requirements
3	FSA ELA and Math
4	FSA Writing, ELA, and Math
5	FSA Writing, ELA, Math, and Science
6	FSA Writing, ELA, Math, and District Final Exams
7	FSA Writing, ELA, Math, and District Final Exams
8	FSA Writing, ELA, Math, Science, and District Final Exams
Middle School, If applicable:	Civics, Algebra 1 Honors, Geometry 1 Honors, Physical Science Honors

For middle school students, the district final exams include elective classes (PE, Art, Spanish, Band, Computer), Social Studies, and Science.

Please review the attached VRA Daily Test Administration Schedule for Distance Learning students for specific dates. You will be contacted via email 1-3 weeks prior to the testing dates to confirm and/or sign up for your child's testing sessions (times will vary).

Per the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), no remote administrations are available for any statewide summative assessments.

The following safety protocols will be in place:

- Temperatures taken for all students prior to entering building.
- Students will be required to wear masks when entering/exiting the building, when walking to/from the classroom for the assessment and when social distancing is not feasible.
- Groups of 15 students or less.
- Desk shields will be utilized for all testing stations.
- Parents/guardians should review the COVID-19 Student Health Screening Entry Form.
- Please reschedule if your child has any symptoms listed or you answer yes to any of the questions.

105 Greenleaf Drive

Ponte Vedra, Florida 32081

904-547-4090

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Debra Allred, Assistant Principal

Julie Hudson, Assistant Principal

James Lee, Assistant Principal

Sandra McMandon, Principal



VALLEY RIDGE ACADEMY

- Please have a photo ID to pick up your child after testing is complete.

The tests your child is scheduled for are designed to be taken over two days (one session per day) to prevent testing fatigue (except for ELA Writing which is one session). The FL Department of Education has granted permission for parents/guardians to request the option of having their child take two sessions in one day. If you would like your child to take both sessions in one day, to reduce the number of in-person testing days, please contact me as soon as possible and I can make arrangements to have your child take two sessions in one day with a break between sessions.

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 and Computer 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.**
- **Calculators**—Calculators are not permitted during Grades 3–6 Mathematics tests. Calculators are provided during sessions 2 and 3 for Grades 7-8.
- **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 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



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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), he or she **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 for him or her 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, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, please contact me at 904-547-4090 or via email at holly.nover@stjohns.k12.fl.us For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at www.FSAssessments.org.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during Spring 2021 assessments.

Sincerely,

Holly Nover

Holly Nover, Testing Coordinator

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