



Dear PWCS Family:

The Virginia Board of Education and Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) have developed the Virginia Assessment Program to help measure students' academic progress in the Standards of Learning (SOLs). The SOLs indicate Virginia's expectations for what students should know and be able to do in the subject areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and history/social science. Copies of the SOLs are available online at the VDOE website at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov>.

Each year, students at different grade levels are expected to participate in SOL tests or a variety of other related assessments. SOL tests are typically untimed and designed to measure achievement in a respective subject area. Students are tested in reading and mathematics in grades 3-8 and at the conclusion of certain high-school level courses if they need a qualifying score to graduate or are required to participate because of federal law. Students are tested in writing in grades 8 and 11. Students are tested in history/social science in grades 4, 8, and at the conclusion of certain high-school level courses if they need a qualifying score to graduate. And finally, students are tested in science in grades 5, 8, and at the conclusion of certain high-school level courses if they need a qualifying score to graduate or are required to participate because of federal law. Please note that, if a high school student has met federal participation requirements and they do not need a qualifying score on an SOL test to graduate, then they will not participate in SOL testing even if they are enrolled in an associated course.

This summer, you will receive a report of your student's performance on SOL tests(s) or assessments(s) administered during the school year. This report will include a proficiency level for your student, as well as their score on each test or assessment.

If you have any questions about the Virginia Assessment Program or graduation requirements, please contact your student's school.

Sincerest Regards,

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