



Dear PWCS Family:

The Virginia Board of Education has adopted the Virginia Assessment Program to help track students' progress in the Standards of Learning (SOL). 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 studies. Each year, students in specific grade levels and courses are expected to participate in SOL testing unless exempted by state or federal law or by Board of Education regulations. In the past, most students participated in SOL testing during the spring only. However, recent legislation requires Grades 3-8 students to also participate in a growth assessment twice per school year.

This school year, Grades 3-8 students will participate in the Mathematics Virginia Growth Assessment (VGA) during the fall and winter, and then their regular SOL assessment in the spring. The math VGA will be taken at school just like the regular SOL test. After VGA testing is completed, your student's school will provide you with a report of their performance. In advance of that, please note that there is not a passing score on the VGA math test. Rather, it is designed specifically to measure academic progress at various times during the school year.

If you have questions about SOL testing, VGA testing, or the date that testing will occur, please contact your student's school directly. For more information about the VGA, please visit the Virginia Department of Education website at:

<https://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching-learning-assessment/student-assessment/virginia-sol-assessment-program/growth-assessments>

We hope you have a wonderful school year!

Sincerest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul F. Parker', with a small flourish at the end.

Paul F. Parker, PhD
Supervisor of Testing