

NJSLA-LANGUAGE ARTS, MATH, AND SCIENCE AT BES (FORMERLY PARCC)



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NJSLA BASICS

The NJSLA (New Jersey Student Learning Assessment) is a tool that gives us more information about students' academic growth. At BES, we have many ways to gather information about students. NJSLA is one piece of that large puzzle.

It assesses student knowledge of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Language Arts, Math, and Science. We use this information to see how we can improve instruction at BES. We may also look at NJSLA scores to gather more information about a student. NJSLA scores are never used alone. For example, we would not use NJSLA scores to determine if a student is eligible for gifted and talented services. Instead, we use it as one piece

of information amidst multiple other sources.

Each test session ranges from 60-90 minutes. These times include breaks as well as additional time for students to review their answers. Most students will finish before the allotted session time ends. At BES, we schedule one session a day and all sessions occur in the morning. Our goal in doing this is for students to take the test when they are refreshed and most prepared for the day. This also allows students to participate in the remainder of their schedules and causes the least amount of disruption.

On the day of testing, your child will work with one of the grade level teachers to complete the test session. Students will go to their remaining classes in-

cluding lunch and specials. In addition, students will have an additional outdoor recess period (weather permitting) on the days they are scheduled for NJSLA testing. If a student is absent, he/she will make up the session they missed when they return.

Students are allowed small breaks during testing to stretch, get a drink of water, or use the bathroom. NJSLA is administered by certified teachers who have been trained specifically to administer this test. Also, the NJSLA is slightly shorter than the PARCC assessment which allows us to complete testing in less time than previous years.

Students with an IEP or 504 plan receive testing accommodations as indicated in their plan. Accommodations are provided for these students just as they would in the classroom setting.

NJSLA Tentative Testing Calendar:

3RD & 5TH GRADE

- APRIL 27TH– MAY 1ST

4TH & 6TH GRADE

- MAY 4TH– MAY 6TH

SCIENCE (5TH GRADE ONLY)

- MAY 4TH–MAY 5TH

MAKE UP TESTING

- MAY 11TH– MAY 14TH

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE NJSLA

Our goal is for students to feel prepared, calm, and capable. We want each student to do their best. Students are prepared for NJSLA questions through their classroom curriculum. Before NJSLA testing, teachers will show students how to use the functions of the online test through the use of a [tutorial](#) and [practice tests](#). Par-

ents/Guardians are welcome to go to these links to learn more information about the test itself.

We ask that parents/guardians reinforce the importance of their children doing their best. We don't want to put unnecessary pressure on students but we do want them to feel confident and to take the test seriously. Also,

please make sure your children get a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast.

Thank you in advance for your help as we prepare students for the NJSLA!

