


IF YOU HESITATED TO OPT YOUR CHILD OUT OF THE ELA TEST BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD OR YOU WERE PERSUADED NOT TO, YOU CAN STILL

REFUSE THE 3RD-8TH GRADE STATE MATH TEST

THE HIGHEST EDUCATION OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK STATE SAY SO!



**New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**
Knowledge › Skill › Opportunity

**Message from Chancellor Betty A. Rosa, the Board of Regents and State Education
Commissioner MaryEllen Elia**

As students in grades 3 through 8 take New York's state assessments this week, we appreciate the efforts of school leaders to ensure parents have all information to make a decision about the assessments that is right for their family. We would like to remind school leaders of the importance of honoring requests received by parents to opt their children out of the exams. While federal law does require all states to administer state assessments in English language arts and mathematics, parents have a right to opt their children out of these exams. To be certain, the vast majority of schools honor parents' requests to have their children not take the tests; however, we have also heard of isolated but troubling reports of parents' requests being ignored.

We thank New York's parents, teachers, and school administrators for their support and understanding as we continue to work together in the best interest of all students.

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STILL UNSURE?

- Do you know that some children taking the ELA test in April—maybe even yours?—tested from 8:30 AM until 2:30 PM with only a brief break to eat lunch at their desks?
- Do you know that some children—maybe even yours?—were still working on the test after dismissal?
- Do you know that children—maybe even yours?—had to struggle with reading passages rated at the high school level?
- Do you know that the problems with computer-based testing were so bad that some children—maybe even yours?—lost their work or spent hours just trying to log in?

If you think those things aren't right, don't wait for the same things to happen with the math test.

(And the complicated computer interface for the math tests add another reason to say No! Enough!

This is not helping my child be better at math!)

JOIN WITH HUNDREDS OF
THOUSANDS OF NEW YORKERS AND
REFUSE THE MATH TEST!



EVERYTHING YOU NEED
TO KNOW TO REFUSE:
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