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Dr. John C. Morgano, Superintendent of Schools

October 23, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to share my thoughts with you regarding the NYS assessments in ELA and mathematics. I believe that these assessments provide the school district, teacher and especially the parents, with an objective measure of how well your child is progressing in the key areas of ELA and mathematics.

I encourage you to take advantage of these objective assessments that reveal how well your child is progressing. It is a fact that once your child is in high school, he or she will have to take Regents exams. As a parent and grandparent I would not want my child or grandchild to take a state assessment for the first time as a high school student.

The tests are not perfect. No test is. One could argue that the assessments are too long. That used to be true but today's tests are a couple of hours long on two, not three different days. This is reasonable.

This year we are going to take the assessments on the computer. Students will be familiar with this process prior to the assessment dates as they will be taking class tests on the computer as well. (I have attached the 2018-2019 NYS assessment schedule to this letter.)

I would like nothing more than for Eldred to have 100% participation in the ELA and math assessments in grades 3-8. Please help us to reach this goal. Should you have any questions regarding the state assessments that your child's teacher could not answer please contact your child's principal or contact me directly. The state assessments do not begin until about March, however I wanted to share my thoughts with you now so that you have ample time to pose questions that you may have regarding the assessments.

I thank you for your continued support of our outstanding school district.

Sincerely,

John C. Morgano Ed.D.