



# Monticello Central School District

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***“Greater than the Average”***

Happy (almost) Spring! The time for NYS 3-8 assessments is nearly here. Many of our students chose not to take these exams last year. If you are thinking about opting your child out of these exams, know that I know you face many difficult decisions as a parent, and I hope you will consider this:

It is not uncommon for some students to find testing to be stressful. However, it is important for parents and students to understand the Monticello Central School District is bound by the rules and regulations set forth by the New York State Education Department (NYSED). NYSED requires the district to administer state assessments to all students in grades 3 through 8.

The state and the district consider testing to be a part of our educational program as it provides an evaluation of student knowledge of content and skills in various courses of study, as well as helping us shape future instruction.

Knowing that testing serves as a tool for adjustment of instruction, please know that these tests are simply one of many measures of performance. Like you, we do not want students to experience undue pressure or anxiety, and our school will do everything possible to create the most appropriate assessment environment for your child(ren). We only ask that all of our students simply try to do their best on any exam.

While the decision is ultimately yours, please give some additional thought to our obligations as a public school district in the State of New York and our record of commitment to your child's education. Most importantly, please understand that regardless of your final decision, all students will be required to be present for testing.

If you ultimately choose to have your child(ren) opted out of these exams, we will place him or her in an alternate location where regular course instruction will occur.

If you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me.

Be well,

Tammy Mangus, Superintendent of Schools

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