



March 26, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Spring is quickly approaching and with it comes Statewide Assessments. The following information is being provided to you so that you can better understand our testing schedule and requirements. The information is broken down by subject area, not necessarily by testing date. A table that contains the actual testing dates is included later in this document.

Per the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), no remote administrations are available for any statewide summative assessments.

Students enrolled in **third through eighth** grade will be administered the Florida Statewide Assessments (FSA) and the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) Assessments.

FSA English Language Arts Writing Assessment

All students in **fourth through eighth** grade will take the *FSA English Language Arts Writing Assessment*. This assessment is paper based for students in fourth through sixth grade and computer based for students in seventh and eighth grade. This assessment is administered in one (120) minute session.

FSA English Language Arts Reading Assessment

Students in **third through eighth** grade will take the *FSA English Language Arts Reading Assessment*. This assessment is paper based for students in third through sixth grade and computer based for students in seventh and eighth grade. The assessments are administered over two days. Third through fifth grades are tested in two (80) minute sessions and sixth through eighth are tested in two (85) minute sessions.

FSA Mathematics Assessment

All students in **third through eighth** grade will take the *FSA Mathematics Assessment*. This assessment is paper based for students in third through sixth grade and computer based for students in seventh and eighth grade. This assessment is administered over two days. Third through fifth grades are tested in two (80) minute sessions and sixth through eighth grade are tested in three (60) minute sessions, with one session administered on day 1 and two sessions administered on day 2.

FSA End-of-Course Algebra I Assessments

All **eighth** grade students enrolled in Algebra I will take the *FSA Algebra I End-of-Course Assessment*. This assessment is computer based and administered over two days in two 90-minute sessions.

NGSSS Science Assessment

Students in **fifth and eighth** grade will take the *NGSSS Science Assessment*. This assessment is paper based for both grades. For the fifth graders, the test is administered over two days and consists of two 80-minute sessions. The test is administered to the eighth graders in one day during two 80-minute sessions.

NGSSS End-of-Course Civics Assessment

All **seventh** grade students enrolled in Civics will take the NGSSS End-of-Course Assessment. This assessment is computer based. This assessment is administered in one day during one 160-minute session.

For other information about the assessments, see the “About the Assessments” page on the portal: <https://fsassessments.org/florida-statewide-assessment-program.stml>.

Practice Tests

All students at Madison Creative Arts Academy will have the opportunity to participate in a practice test to become familiar with the item types and the response formats that he or she will see on the FSA assessments as well as the computer based testing system for students in grades seven and eight. It is highly recommended that students and parents review the computer based practice test at home to ensure that everyone is comfortable and familiar with this system. Your child may practice as often as necessary prior to testing.

To help your student become comfortable with the item types and response formats, the following resources are available at <https://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>:

- Paper-Based Practice Tests and Answer Keys
- Student Presentations

Please review the following policies with your child before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them**. If your student is found with an electronic device, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculators** – For grades 7 & 8 Mathematics, **approved calculators may be used during SESSIONS 2 & 3 only**. For Algebra 1 EOC assessments, **approved handheld calculators may be used during SESSION 2 ONLY**. If students have handheld calculators during Session 1, their test will be invalidated. Calculators are not permitted during Grades 3-6 Mathematics tests.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment printed in the student’s test and answer book that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators will read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signature.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing** – The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items, passages, and prompts) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that

“discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**

- **Working independently** – Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, FDOE employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student begins a test session and leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment, illness), he or she **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations** - Please contact the school to discuss any other testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

2021 Assessment Dates/Subjects

Date	Grades	Test	Test Type
April 6, 2021	4 th - 6 th	ELA Writing	Paper Based
April 7, 2021	7 th - 8 th	ELA Writing	Computer Based
April 6-7, 2021	3 rd	ELA Reading	Paper Based
May 4-5, 2021	4 th - 6 th 7 th - 8 th	ELA Reading ELA Reading	Paper Based Computer Based
May 6-7, 2021	3 rd - 6 th	Math	Paper Based
May 11-12, 2021	5 th 7 th - 8 th	Science Math Algebra 1 EOC	Paper Based Computer Based Computer Based
May 13, 2021	7 th 8 th	Civics EOC Science	Computer Based Paper Based

Please note that all testing will begin promptly each morning, so it is imperative that your child be in their seat and ready to receive instructions as soon as the tardy bell rings each morning.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Madison Creative Arts Academy Assessment schedule, please feel free to contact me at (850) 973-2529 or at the e-mail address listed below.

Sincerely,

Ms. Vicki Donaldson

MCAA Testing Coordinator
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