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CLARIFYING STATE TESTING

Dear Parent or Guardian:

In 2008, the State Board of Education voted to approve the grade 9-12 Mathematics Learning Standards for adoption by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). Along with the new standards, the legislature provided direction for the redesign of the State the assessment system. The Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) replaced the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) and assessed the new mathematics standards in grades 3-8 in the spring of 2010. End-of-course (EOC) exams will replace the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) in 2011. These EOC exams will assess the Algebra 1 and Geometry performance expectations in the spring of 2011. This means that junior high school students who are enrolled in Algebra 1, CMP 8, or Geometry will be taking the State EOC exam during the last three weeks of the course. This test is designed to be taken over the course of three class periods and will measure students’ success on the state Algebra or Geometry standards. Students who have previously taken Algebra 1, CMP 8, Geometry or both and are not currently enrolled in one of these classes may take what the State is calling the Algebra 1 or Geometry Make-up test. This test is designed to measure the State Algebra 1 and Geometry standards, but is a shorter test designed to be taken in one testing session.

Summary: Jr. High students must take the following tests in the spring of 2011

1. All students must take the 7th and/or 8th grade Measurement of Student Progress (MSP) exam.

GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Reading	Reading
Math	Math
Writing	Science

2. Grades 7 and 8 students currently enrolled in Algebra 1, CMP 8, and Geometry must take the State End of Course (EOC) Exam within three weeks of the end of the course.
3. Grades 7 and 8 students who have previously taken Algebra 1, CMP 8, or Geometry will take a State Make-Up Test.

Scenarios/Examples:	Required State Tests
Your child is attending Jr. High and is not taking Algebra 1 or Geometry	MSP
Your child is attending Jr. High and is currently enrolled in Algebra 1 or CMP 8	MSP Algebra 1 End of Course Exam (3 days)
Your child is attending Jr. High and is currently enrolled in Geometry and has previously taken Algebra 1 or CMP 8	MSP Geometry End-of-Course Exam (3 days) Algebra 1 Make-Up Exam (1 day)
Your child is in 9 th grade and is currently enrolled in Advanced Algebra and has previously passed Algebra 1, CMP 8, and Geometry	Algebra 1 Make-Up Exam (1 day) Geometry Make-Up Exam (1 day)

The State has set the following window schedule for the Paper Pencil MSP exams: May 2-19, 2011.
The State has set the following window schedule for the on-line MSP exams: May 2-June 3, 2011.
We will be communicating with you regarding the exact schedule of the EOCs as we get closer to the testing window.

Please see the attached document called '*Earning a Diploma: The Class of 2011 and Beyond*,' for a synopsis of all graduation requirements that your child must meet for the class of 2013 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Deborah K. W. McCarson
Principal
Kirkland Junior High