

March 30, 2010

To All Students and Parents,

**We are preparing our Junior Class for the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (P.S.S.A.) on April 13, 14 and 15, 2010. Also, the freshman and sophomore classes will be taking the standardized Terra Nova assessment test.** (A schedule is enclosed for these dates). One of the critical barometers measuring academic success of students throughout Pennsylvania is the P.S.S.A. tests in Reading and Mathematics. This letter is to emphasize the importance of these tests on your son/daughter's state classification as they progress toward their eventual graduation from high school.

There are four (4) results on P.S.S.A. and Terra Nova tests: **Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic**. Students who achieve at **Proficient or Advanced** status on the P.S.S.A. test receive a state certification upon graduating from high school. **School district performances** are based upon the **percentage of students who excel at proficient or advanced on all tests**. The 2001 *No Child Left Behind* federal mandate has established the following percentages for minimum proficiency performance for students in every school district:

	Math	Reading
2010	56%	63%
2011	67%	72%
2012	78%	81%
2013	89%	91%

Please emphasize the importance of these assessments with your son/daughter. In addition, ensure they receive plenty of rest/sleep the night before and emphasize eating a nutritious breakfast each morning. **Juniors who do not reach at least the status of proficient in each area will be scheduled for re-testing in October for those areas. Freshman, sophomores, and juniors will also be assigned remediation classes next fall for not meeting proficiency.** Any inquiries can be directed to the high school guidance office or my office at (610) 863-1293.

Sincerely,

John C. Smith  
Principal

JCS/mjs

