

March 9, 2018

Dear Bogle Families,

As you may be aware, Bogle students will be taking the state required AZ Merit assessment shortly after returning from spring break. These exams are designed to measure student mastery of state standards in reading, math, and 8th grade science. The test will take about 7 hours and will be spread over several days:

1. **April 3 & 4** – students currently enrolled in one of these math courses at BJHS will be required to take an end-of-course assessment: 8th grade honors, Gifted 7 & 8, Geometry, Algebra 2. These students will be testing with their regular math teacher during their regularly scheduled math class.
2. **April 9, 10, 11** – ALL students will take the Az Merit English Language Arts (reading/writing) and Mathematics assessments. We will be on a special schedule on each of these days: Seventh graders test from 9:30-12:30 daily; Eighth graders test from 12:45-3:45 daily.
3. **April 12** - All eighth graders will take the AIMS Science exam in their third period homeroom during an adjusted morning schedule.

Students will need to have earbuds available for our computer-based testing sessions, if you are able to provide these, please do so. We will have a limited supply available for any student who is unable to bring their own. Students are prohibited from having cell phones and Smart watches in their possession during testing sessions.

It is essential that your student is in school each day during testing. The Arizona Department of Education requires a 95% daily attendance rate for every school during the testing period. I am hopeful that providing this advance information will allow our families time to ensure that doctor, dentist, or personal appointments are not scheduled on these dates.

We will be conducting a snack drive from March 27th – April 6th in hopes of providing a healthy snack to every student, each day of the AZ Merit test. Families may contribute **pre-packaged containers** for classroom groups of 35 students, from the following list: gold fish crackers, pretzels, nut-free trail mix/granola bars, fruit gummies/roll-ups. Donations can be dropped in the office.

While AZ Merit tests provide only one snapshot of a students' academic progress, the results do influence future course work. Please take some time to speak with your student about best efforts during testing. Help ensure that they get a good night's sleep and eat a nutritious breakfast on testing days. We will be working with you to help every student test their best!

As always, thank you for your on-going support of Bogle and our students. Enjoy your spring break!

Best regards,

Susan Avey, Principal