

Edgewood City Schools

State Testing Exemption Informational Update per the Approved House Bill 197 (signed into law 3/27/2020 by Governor Mike DeWine)

The following information is being provided to clarify the Amendments recently made by the Ohio Legislature to House Bill 197, which allows school districts to forgo State Achievement Testing. The information provided below in **black** are the items listed in the Amendments of House Bill 197; the information provided in **red** is an explanation on how these changes impact Edgewood.

The Amendment language states: For the 2019-2020 school year, due to the Director of Health's order "In Re: Order the Closure of All K-12 Schools in the State of Ohio" issued on March 14, 2020, any local board of health order, or any extension of an order to close all kindergarten through 12th grade schools, does all of the following:

Exempts all public and chartered nonpublic schools from administering state achievement and alternative assessments, including the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment administered to English learners, WebXams, and the Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities.

- Some of these tests such as the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment administered to English learners and the Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities have already begun to take place in the district. This means that any portion not completed or if the child has not yet been tested, the tests will not be administered or completed and there will be no negative repercussions for the students or the district.
- We will not be administering any of the OST that would normally take place in the spring. They are commonly referred to as AIR testing or End of Course (EOC) exams. This lack of test score will not impact your students' advancement to the next grade level. Where passage of these assessments are usually included in graduation requirements, the remaining tests will not be required for the class of 2019-2020 and graduation will be based on other criteria.

The Amendment language states: Prohibits the Department of Education from publishing and issuing ratings for overall grades, components, and individual measures on the state report cards, report cards for dropout recovery schools, report cards for joint vocational school districts and other career-technical planning districts, and submitting preliminary data for report cards for school districts and buildings.

- This means there will be no School or District Report cards published by the Ohio Department of Education. The district will continue to focus on the areas of improvement identified in the past as we work together to serve your child.

The Amendment language states: Exempts schools from retaining students in the third grade under the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee, unless the school principal and student's reading teacher determine the student is not reading at grade level.

- In the case of the Third Grade Guarantee which requires all third grade students to receive a minimal score on the Fall or Spring OST English Language Arts test (or other approved assessment), that test will not be given this spring. The building principals and the students' reading teachers will work to determine which students were not on track for meeting that score based on universal screeners given prior to the school closure and other data that demonstrates student performance or data obtained. When additional data will be collected to assist in this process. The building principals and the students' reading teachers will determine which students are not reading at grade level. For students identified as not reading on grade level, and where retention is deemed necessary, parents will be notified by the building principal and a plan will be devised to support the student next year, based on the identified needs. Specific questions pertaining to your child should be directed to your child's building principal. Please email your child's principal at:

Seven Mile Elementary School: lori.harrison@edgewoodschools.net

Edgewood Elementary School: gary.croley@edgewoodschools.net

The Amendment language states: Permits public and private schools to grant a diploma to any student on track to graduate and for whom the principal, in consultation with teachers and counselors, determines that the student has successfully completed the student's high school curriculum or individualized education program at the time of the order was issued by the Director of Health.

- For seniors who were on track for graduation as of March 13th, the graduation requirement of achieving a passing score on the EOC assessments is waived. If your child is on track for graduation, this lack of testing will not keep them from graduating. If a student was at risk of not meeting graduation requirements prior to March 13th, our high school counselors and/or administrators will reach out to you to devise a plan to help your child work towards completion of any necessary requirements. Specific questions concerning your senior should be addressed through email to our EHS principal at: doug.geygan@edgewoodschools.net