

## Dear Gate City Charter School Families,

The first week in April students in grades 3-8 will be beginning the NHSAS.

Each year, New Hampshire public and charter schools are required by state law (RSA 193-C) and federal accountability laws (Every Student Succeeds Act) to assess students using a standardized assessment. We utilize several assessments in order to comply with these requirements. The U.S. Department of Education is requiring states to administer the state summative assessments this year. During the month of May, learners in grades 3-8 will be administered the New Hampshire Statewide Assessments (NHSAS).

Statewide assessments are an important part of a student's core educational program. They provide:

- An evaluation of student mastery of content and skills in various academic areas
- Serve as one tool for measuring the degree to which students are on track to graduate high school and be college- and career-ready
- Help inform future instruction in the classroom

Along with student work on classroom assignments, projects, essays, and local formative and summative assessments, statewide summative assessment results provide teachers and parents with important information about where students are on their path toward academic success.

Below are the required assessments for public and charter school students:

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Grades</b>	<b>Content</b>
NH Statewide Assessment System (NH SAS)	3rd-8th	English Language Arts, Mathematics, Writing
NH SAS	5th, 8th	Science

For a detailed schedule of testing along with additional testing information please visit [gccsanh.org](http://gccsanh.org) and continue to the heading NHSAS under Parents and Students.

Interested in helping your child prepare by exploring the format, tools, and subject matter of the assessment together? Follow this link to join the Student Practice Site: [https://login2.cambiumtds.com/student\\_core/V148/Pages/LoginShell.aspx?c=NewHampshire\\_PT&a=Student](https://login2.cambiumtds.com/student_core/V148/Pages/LoginShell.aspx?c=NewHampshire_PT&a=Student) No login required. Simply select the grade level and subject that you would like to check out.

Please help your student(s) do their very best on the NHSAS by encouraging them to get all of the rest that they need and to eat and snack nutritiously upon returning from break. Please send along two water bottles and extra healthy snacks for testing days.

**DONATIONS NEEDED:** Students may have gum or hard candy/mints during testing. We are looking for volunteers to send in any of these items to be donated and shared with all classrooms. Please send any donations to the Front Office by March 31st. Thank you in advance!

If you have questions or concerns about your child's participation, please contact me directly at Jennifer Blanchette .

Thank you for your support!

Jenn Blanchette

Director, GCCSA

**Note:** New Hampshire RSA 193-C6 permits parents/guardians to exempt their public school students from participating in the required statewide assessments in English language arts, mathematics, and science. For more information on assessment exemptions, please reach out to GCCSA administration.