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Notification Regarding Opting Out of Required State Testing

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter serves as notification of Hogbood Charter School's Opt-Out policy for required state testing. State and federal laws require all public school students in membership (i.e., enrolled in a school) in grades 3 through 8 and high school courses requiring an end-of-course test, to participate in the Annual Testing Program. North Carolina does not allow any student to opt out of required state testing. The only exceptions granted are for a limited number of students who meet certain eligibility requirements or have extenuating circumstances primarily related to a significant medical emergency or condition and are unable to participate in a specific test administration. Additionally, homeschooled students are required to be assessed annually on a nationally normed standardized test.

Furthermore, N.C. Admin Code 06D .0309 requires schools to use end-of-course tests as "at least twenty percent (20%) of the student's final grade." As such, a student's grade for these courses and overall grade-point-average calculation may be negatively impacted by not taking the required end-of-course state tests. Schools have the flexibility to use end-of-grade test scores as necessary.

Please know that Hobgood Charter School tries to be responsive to parents' concerns regarding testing, yet we must adhere to state and federal guidelines that address the educational needs of all children.

Sincerely,



Joyce Betts

Guidance/Testing Coordinator