Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

Each year, the NYSESLAT (New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test) is given to all identified English Language Learners throughout New York State. If you are unsure of whether your son or daughter is an identified English Language Learner, please call my office at (845) 326-1302.

The NYSESLAT is designed to measure the English language proficiency of students who have been identified as an English Language Learner (ELL). Students who have been identified as an ELL and take the NYSESLAT, will be determined to be at one of the 5 following English proficiency levels:

1-Entering  2-Emerging  3- Transitioning  4- Expanding  5- Commanding

The NYSESLAT measures English proficiency in the four areas of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing. The test is given over a series of days within the Enlarged City School District of Middletown (ECSDM). Below you will find the administration dates of the 2021 NYSESLAT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST</th>
<th>ADMINISTRATION DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NYSESLAT - Speaking</td>
<td>Monday, April 19– Wednesday, June 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>NYSESLAT- Listening, Reading &amp; Writing</td>
<td>Monday, May 17 – Wednesday, June 9</td>
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During NYSESLAT testing administration dates, students are expected to attend school in order to complete this required New York State test that measures your son or daughter’s level of English proficiency. Please make every effort to have your son/daughter in attendance, either in-person or remotely, during the above NYSESLAT testing window. Additionally, please know that guidance from the NYS Education Department indicates that all ELL students must take the 2021 NYSESLAT regardless of their instructional preference of in-person, hybrid or remote learning.

If your child is currently attending school on a hybrid schedule or in-person schedule, he/she will be tested by their teacher, during school hours at his/her school and during the above testing window.

If your child is currently on a 100% remote instruction schedule, your son/daughter will need to take the 2021 NYSESLAT at a school location or at another location approved by the ECSDM Director of ENL, Bilingual & World Languages. This year, as an alternate location, the ECSDM Bilingual Office will be available for the testing of 100% remote students. The ECSDM Bilingual Office follows and adheres to all NYS health and safety protocols and will test your child either individually or in a small group setting, with physical distancing ensured.
The measures that have been put into place to ensure the health, safety and well-being of your child(ren) during the 2021 NYSESLAT testing window are as follows:

✔ Students/staff/visitors are temperature screened upon arrival to a school building every day
✔ Masks and/or face coverings are required to be worn while on school property
✔ Physical distancing and physical barriers have been installed and are utilized throughout the day
✔ Hand washing locations and use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers are readily available
✔ Quarantine measures and protocols are in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19
✔ Individual or 1:1 testing options are available, as well as small group testing, in the school or at alternate locations
✔ Sanitizing stations, COVID-19 screening and signage along with social/physical distancing reminders have been placed at all testing locations
✔ NYSESLAT testing schedules have been made to ensure all NYS, Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Orange County Department of Health (OCDH) guideline are followed
✔ NYSESLAT testing appointments are available and being scheduled according to the comfortability of parents for their child(ren) who are 100% remote students

For more information on how the safety precautions the ECSDM has taken ensure the health, safety and well-being of students, staff and families, please visit the NYS Education website at:
http://www.nysed.gov/coronavirus

Additionally, it is important to know that the use of any communication device, such as a cellphone, is strictly prohibited during the 2021 NYSESLAT exam. If your child brings a cellphone or other electronic communication device to school on a testing day, he/she may be asked to give it to building administration during the testing session. Building administration will return the device at the end of the testing session. The only exception would be a communication device that is outlined or required as part of an IEP or Section 504 Plan. If your child has an IEP/ Section 504 Plan, testing accommodations will be adhered to as specified in the plan.

We are committed to helping every child succeed every day in school and on the NYSESLAT. Thank you very much for your continued support as we navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic that has caused much disruption to the learning process. It is for this reason, the 2021 NYSESLAT test is important for your child(ren) to take. The NYSESLAT provides us with your son or daughter’s most current level of English proficiency which then enables us to provide the correct amount of supportive service minutes for your child daily within their in-person, hybrid or 100% remote /virtual classroom environment. Without knowing your son or daughter’s current level, the correct amount of support services may be impeded. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the 2021 NYSESLAT, please feel comfortable contacting the Bilingual office at (845)-326-1302.

Sincerely,

Linda Bradt, ECSDM Director of ENL, Bilingual & World Languages