

Dear Wappingers Community,

Today, the State Education Department has released the results of the 2012-13 state assessment scores on the English Language Arts and Mathematics tests for students in grades 3-8. It had been predicted that scores across the state would be lower this year than in prior years. This has in fact happened. The results for Wappingers are consistent with this state-wide downturn in scores. This decrease is due to the significant changes in both the curriculum and the assessments linked to the Common Core State Standards. Although the news of lower results in student scores was expected it may still be met with considerable disappointment from students, families, and educators alike. We all want to do better. Any new initiative that is as vast in scope and measure as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) will need time for implementation to take hold before it begins to show results. The District will continue to apply itself in an energetic, reflective, and organized manner to support the transition to the CCSS and the desired improvements in student achievement.

New York's Commissioner of Education, John King has written a very informative letter to parents on this topic. To see Commissioner King's letter to parents please [click here](#).

Sincerely,

Marco F. Pochintesta

Superintendent of Schools