

March 2017

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

The West Virginia Department of Education will administer the West Virginia Alternate Summative Assessment, which is an instructionally relevant system that supports student learning and measures what students with significant cognitive disabilities know and can do.

All public school students who meet the participation criteria for alternate assessment set forth in the *Guidelines for Participation in West Virginia State Assessments* will participate in the alternate summative assessment at the grade level in which they are enrolled. Students are assessed in grades 3-8 and grade 11 for ELA and mathematics, and grades 5, 8, and 10 for science.

To prepare students for this annual assessment, the Office of Assessment has designed, as an informational tool, a brochure for parents titled *West Virginia Alternate Summative Assessment*. This brochure describes the alternate summative assessment and the use of test results to measure students' levels of performance on the West Virginia Next Generation Alternate Achievement Standards and Objectives. The brochure is designed to be a compact, useful guide for understanding the components of alternate assessment.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the district test coordinator at your district's central office.

Sincerely,



Steven L. Paine, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

SLP/MG:mm

Enclosure