

NAEP 2026 PARENT-GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION LETTER

[SCHOOL LETTERHEAD]

[DATE]

Dear Parent or Guardian:

[SCHOOL NAME] has been selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), administered by the National Center for Education Statistics within the U.S. Department of Education, on [DATE]. The NAEP includes assessments in Grades 4 and 8 Reading and Mathematics. Results are released as The Nation’s Report Card, and data collected through the NAEP are used in both national and state-by-state comparisons.

The NAEP takes about 120 minutes for most participating students to complete, including transition time, directions, and completion of voluntary survey questions. **The data collected through the NAEP are used for statistical purposes only.** Your child’s grades will not be affected by their performance on the NAEP, and participating schools/students will not receive their NAEP performance data. Each participating student is assessed in only one subject area. Students may be excused from the NAEP for any reason. They are not required to complete the assessment and may skip any question.

For the 2026 administration of the NAEP, students at schools with devices that meet the technical requirements for the NAEP will participate in the assessment using a school device. Students at schools with devices that do not meet these technical requirements will participate in the assessment using NAEP-provided devices.

In addition to the assessment, participating students may voluntarily complete the NAEP survey questions, which provide information about students’ educational experiences and opportunities to learn both inside and outside of the classroom. More information about the NAEP survey questions is available at nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/parents under “Survey Questionnaires & Your Student: What You Need to Know.”

There is no requirement for your child to study in preparation for the NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. If you do not want your child to participate, please indicate so in writing by [DATE]. Contact [NAME] at [TELEPHONE #] or [EMAIL ADDRESS] with any questions.

Sincerely,

[SCHOOL PRINCIPAL’S NAME]

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) conducts the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) to evaluate federally supported education programs. All of the information you provide may only be used for the purposes of research, statistics, and evaluation under the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA; 20 U.S.C. § 9543) and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law.

Every NCES employee as well as every NCES agent, such as contractors and NAEP coordinators, has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to five years, a fine of \$250,000, or both, if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you in any unauthorized manner. Electronic submission of your information will be monitored for viruses, malware, and other threats by Federal employees and contractors in accordance with the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015.