



May 2, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian of HHS Sophomore:

I am writing to share information with you about the spring 2021 MCAS testing schedule for your child.

The MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education describes the MCAS tests as "an important tool to promote student success and educational equity." They are required by state and federal law.

All Massachusetts high school students in the class of 2023 must take and pass the MCAS tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics to earn a high school diploma, in addition to meeting local requirements. Students will have opportunities to retest next year if they do not pass the tests this spring.

The high school MCAS tests provide the opportunity for students to qualify for several state awards, including the [John and Abigail Adams Scholarship](#) and the [Stanley Z. Koplik Certificate of Mastery](#). In addition, MCAS test results will:

- give information about areas of learning that have been most impacted by the pandemic;
- provide important data on which students, schools, and districts have been most affected by pandemic-related changes in schooling; and
- improve understanding of your child's knowledge and skills in relation to the state's learning standards, so that we can provide the best system of support and instruction in future years.

MCAS high school tests are not available to be given remotely, so we are providing the following in-school testing opportunities for your child: **ELA on Monday, May 17th and Tuesday, May 18th**; and **Mathematics on Thursday, May 27th and Friday, May 28th**. The tests will begin at 8 AM on each of these dates.

Our school will follow all health and safety protocols during MCAS testing.

If you have any questions about MCAS testing opportunities, accommodations, or health and safety protocols, please contact us.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Rick Swanson
Principal