



January 8, 2021

Dear RLA families,

I hope that this communication finds you well and that you are beginning to settle into the New Year. **STAR testing will take place next week** (January 12-15). All students will take these tests from home. Specific assessment times and log in information will be provided by classroom teachers.

The STAR assessment is used by the district to gather information on students that helps us evaluate curriculum and get a snap shot in time of what our students know and are able to do in this type of testing situation. Please realize that we do not consider this assessment as the “end all be all”. Rather, STAR is a measure of growth over time and only one data point that we use to gauge the growth of students in our district.

STAR testing is intended to be completed independently by your child so we can get can discern, as accurately as possible, your child’s present level of performance. We kindly ask that you do not help your child answer questions during this test. It is important that we get a true reading. STAR is an adaptive test, therefore as students answer questions correctly, the test responds and increases the rigor of the questions. If you are assisting, this may frustrate your child and provide us with false information that is not helpful in planning future instruction. This is not a high-stakes test, nor will the results affect your child’s progress report grade.

Your child’s teacher will inform you of the date and time for test taking. Please ensure that your child is ready and prepared for the designated test-taking window. If a test is missed, he/she will need to make it up. During the math portion of the test the use of scrap paper is encouraged in order to assist students in figuring math problems. Also, utilizing earphones can also be helpful in diminishing noise and distractions during the test. Teachers will be available via a Google Meet throughout test administration to monitor. If an issue arises, please take a deep breath, we by no means want this to be a stressful experience for you or your child! Thank you all for your support of these important assessments.

Warm regards,

Steve DeAngelo, Principal
Leslie Davis, Elementary Program Facilitator
Remote Learning Academy
Fairfield Public Schools
(203) 650-2168