

South Brunswick Elementary Math

K-5 Math End of Year Assessments Overview:

As part of the K-5 South Brunswick School District end-of-year assessment process, all K-5 students are tested on the math curriculum in which they were instructed during the year. These assessments are used to identify trends of strengths and challenges within the district curriculum. In addition, individual student growth and proficiency can be measured according to grade level curriculum.

Please note that these assessment scores are not included in your child's report card grades, but rather these scores are used to provide information for instructional purposes such as acceleration, instructional support, and differentiation within the classroom. Also, scores and item analysis of testing questions assist curriculum committees to determine the amount of time spent during the year on a particular mathematical strand.

All assessments consist of multiple choice questions and open-ended questions. Students answer the open-ended questions with written responses. These types of questions allow the students to apply math skills and express what they know about each question in their own words, diagrams or pictures.

Testing Process:

Grade level cumulative assessments are taken during May each year. The classroom teacher administers these assessments.

For the small percentage of students who will need further challenges in mathematics (K-5), the District provides a full grade level accelerated math service to those who meet the multi-level criteria consisting of: Mastery of the current grade level end of year assessment, top score on the accelerated assessment, strong commitments to learning and problem solving, consistency in work ethic, report card grades, teacher recommendation, social and emotional readiness, as well as standardized scores. Parents are notified at the end of the school year if their child is eligible for a grade level acceleration in mathematics.

Qualifications for accelerated testing:

- K-1 Students scoring 95% or higher on the end of year test.
- 2-4 Students scoring 95% or higher on the multiple-choice section of the end of year test and scoring at least 80% on the open-ended.
- Grade 5: Each student takes an end of year assessment and the Crossroads Placement Test. The Crossroads math supervisor determines middle school placement.

Note: Teachers and parents may recommend that a student take an accelerated assessment if the above qualifications are not met.

Students who are accelerated should function at the top of the class they are accelerated into; they should not need additional support to function in the accelerated classroom.

Every year students are assessed for acceleration. If a student does not qualify for acceleration this year, they will be afforded the opportunity again the following year.

We place students where they will receive the instruction that is most fitting for their needs. Teachers are trained to differentiate instruction in the classroom. They use problem based learning and real life situations to make math connections. Many students are secure with the procedures and computations of math, but are challenged when it comes to applying those skills to other situations or problem based situations where they are asked to justify their answers. Math for All Kinds of Minds is a math enrichment service that is provided to all students to assist with this type of learning within the classroom program.

Instructional Support Services:

Additionally, for a small percentage of students math is a challenge. For those students who score below the district cut-off on the end of the year assessment and/or score partially proficient on the grade 3 or 4 NJ ASK Standardized Assessment, instructional support services will be recommended. These instructional services may be delivered in any number of ways such as:

- Pullout instructional groups that serve as a double dose of math instruction, not replacement instruction.
- In-class support with direct instruction being provided by either the classroom teacher or instructional support teacher.
- In-class team teaching.
- Occasional check-ins with students by the instructional support teacher.

If your child is recommended for instructional support services you will be notified in September.

Testing Dates:

Each year the end of year assessments are given in May.

Accelerated testing is given in early June.

One week of make-up testing will be provided in June.

2016-2017 Elementary End of Year Math Testing Dates:

- **Week of May 15, 2017: K-2 end of year testing**
- **Week of May 22, 2017: 3-5 end of year testing**
- **Week of June 5, 2017: K-4 Accelerated testing**

Note: There will be one week of make-up testing. Make-up testing will only occur during the scheduled make-up dates. **Testing cannot be accommodated before the posted dates.**

- **Week of May 30, 2017 End of Year Math Make-Up Testing**
- **Week of June 12, 2017 Accelerated Math Make-up testing**