

LAWTON CHILES MIDDLE ACADEMY

400 NORTH FLORIDA AVENUE  
LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33801  
863-499-2742/FAX – 863-499-2774



BRIAN J. ANDREWS, PRINCIPAL

ANGELA PRICE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the **Florida Standards Writing Assessment**. Students enrolled in 6<sup>th</sup> grade English will take the paper based test on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students enrolled in 7<sup>th</sup> grade English will take the computer based test on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> and students enrolled in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English will take the computer based test on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. All students will receive letters with specific testing dates and times in their English class before Spring Break.

*“Florida Statute 1008.22(3) requires school districts to administer state assessments to enrolled students: Participation in the assessment program is mandatory for all school districts and all students attending public schools. Therefore, LCMA does not have the authority to exempt students from statutory testing requirements.*

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them**. If your student is found with an electronic device, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All FSA tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules within their test.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students states: “Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not discuss or reveal details about the test items or passages after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, or Instagram.” Please make sure your student understands that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session, he or she **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL), accommodations will be provided for your student according to their plan.

Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a practice session to become familiar with the item types and response formats at school but if you or your student would like to review the practice tests at home please visit <http://www.fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact **Jennifer Goleno at [jennifer.goleno@polk-fl.net](mailto:jennifer.goleno@polk-fl.net)**. Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Brian Andrews