



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK  
SECRETARY FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION/SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Entering the Third  
Millennium proclaiming  
in faith and love the  
mission of Christ the  
Redeemer!

December 2017

Dear Parent/Guardians,

This letter is being sent to inform you of a change regarding the standardized tests administered in the elementary schools of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Due to the extensive delays experienced in the scoring and delivery of score reports for March 2017 *TerraNova* testing, the Archdiocesan Schools Office joined other New Jersey dioceses in exploring options for its standardized testing program. After careful consideration it was decided that the *Iowa Assessments*<sup>TM</sup> best meet our standardized testing needs at this time.

Beginning with this year's standardized testing (scheduled for March 5, 2018 – March 9, 2018) students in Grades 2 through 8 in the elementary schools of the Archdiocese of Newark will take the *Iowa Assessments*<sup>TM</sup> in place of the *TerraNova*.

The *Iowa Assessments*<sup>TM</sup> are a series of nationally normed tests designed to measure student achievement and growth across a continuum of learning standards in Reading, Language, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. The *Iowa Assessments*<sup>TM</sup> are well-regarded and are used by many schools, dioceses and districts throughout the United States. The actual testing process with the *Iowa Assessments*<sup>TM</sup> will be similar to the *TerraNova* testing process. The information gathered from the *Iowa Assessments*<sup>TM</sup> enables educators to monitor student growth and identify instructional needs. Standardized testing also provides information needed to determine student eligibility for various programs and services.

The Archdiocesan Schools Office will be working with our schools during the next few months to ensure a smooth transition to the *Iowa Assessments*<sup>TM</sup>.

Sincerely,

Margaret A. Dames, Ed.D.

Secretary for Catholic Education/Superintendent of Schools

MD/wa

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