State & Putnam County School System

2015-2016 Assessment Information

Grades 9-12

More Information on all State and District Assessments on the PCSS website ([www.pcsstn.com](http://www.pcsstn.com)) home page, News and Information, Testing Information.

**Grades 9-12 TNReady & End-Of-Course (EOC) Assessments**

*Required:* Yes

*Administration Window:*

For full year schedules:

* Part I (offered in online format only): February 8 – March 4
* Part II (online window): April 18 – May 13
* Part II (paper window – includes Science): April 25 – May 6

For fall block schedules:

* Part I (offered in online format only): November 2 – November 20
* Part II (online and paper window – includes Science): November 30 – December 18

For spring block schedules:

* Part I (offered in online format only): April 11 – April 29
* Part II (online window): April 25 – May 13
* Part II (paper window – includes Science): April 25 – May 6

*Purpose & Use*

The new TNReady TCAP tests are designed to assess true student understanding and not just basic memorization and test-taking skills. TNReady will measure student understanding of our current state standards in English language arts and math, not the previous SPIs. - See more at: [tn.gov/education/topic/tnready](http://tn.gov/education/topic/tnready).

TCAP EOC Biology, Chemistry and U.S. History are given to help measure how much a student grows academically over the course of a school year.

* See more at: <http://tn.gov/education/topic/testing-dates#sthash.O1GnOgVo.dpuf>

**English Language Learners (WIDA Access)**

*Required:* Yes

*Administration Window*: March 7-April 8

*Purpose & Use:* Administered to English Learners to evaluate English proficiency.

**Special Education Assessment (NCSC)**

*Required:* Yes

*Administration Window:* Reading/Language Arts and Math will be administered in spring 2016 over a two-month window. Exact dates to be determined but we anticipate March – April as the testing months.

Science and Social Studies may begin to collect data on the first day of school.  Data collection may go through the end of January and data must be entered into the online platform by the end of February 2016.

*Purpose & Use:* This test is given to help measure how much a student grows academically over the course of a school year.

**ACT Suite of Assessments**

*Required:* Yes

*Administration Window:*

ACT PLAN (10th grade) – September 29, 2015 with make-ups September 30th

ACT (11th grade) - April 19, 2016 with make-ups May 3, 2016

**Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)**

*Required:* No

*Administration Window:* October 5-November 13, 2015

*Purpose & Use:* Only a small sample of Tennessee 15-year-old students will take this test. This test, measures Tennessee’s academic achievement against other states and countries also taking this test.

Cookeville HS has been selected to participate in the Fall 2015.

**Interim Benchmark Assessments in Math, ELA, US History, Biology and Chemistry**

*Required:* Yes

*Administration Window:*after each unit within the content area

*Purpose & Use:* Interim Assessments are a tool for teachers, parents, and students to see how students are progressing on each standard, assist teachers in planning, reviewing and revisiting the standards throughout the year.

**Universal Screener (K-9)**

*Required:*  Yes

*Administration Window:* July 29-August 18, 2015; December 2-19, 2015; and March 7-April 8, 2016

*Purpose & Use:* The purpose of the Universal Screener is focused on prevention and early intervention for students who may be in need of a focus on sub-skills and to assist students with enrichment.

**Advanced Placement (AP) & International Baccalaureate (IB) Assessments**

The Advanced Placement program is a portfolio of rigorous courses for high school students that reflect information, skills, and assignments found in corresponding college courses.  Each course is aligned with an assessment that test students’ abilities to perform at the college level.  Many post-secondary institutions award credit for students who meet or exceed institutionally established cut scores on AP assessments, allowing students to earn credit while still in high school.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) assesses student work as direct evidence of achievement against the stated goals of the Diploma Programme courses.

Required for student to receive the weighted quality point value and provides an opportunity to earn credit and advanced placement in college.

ALL students enrolled in International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in PCSS are required to register, pay for, and take the corresponding exam for each course taken.

Fees for exams must either be paid or arrangements for payment must be made by the first Friday following Fall Break (ex., Oct. 23, 2015).  All payments must be completed by the first Friday in January following Winter Break (ex., Jan. 8, 2016).

Any student who has not committed to take the exam for each AP/IB course and completed payment by that date will be removed from the IB class and placed in another class.  All weighted points will be removed from any grade earned and all added weight will be removed from any grade already earned in the IB course.’

IB exams continue through the fourth week of May each year that means that senior students must often return to school to complete exams after the official graduation ceremony.  Students may participate in the graduation ceremony before all exams are completed; however, the high school diploma will be held by the school until it has been verified that all exams have been completed.

Students who register and pay for IB exams but fail to take the exam on the designated date forfeit the weighted points from any grade earned in the AP/IB course.  Final GPA will be recalculated to reflect this reduction in weight before transcripts are sent to colleges and universities.

Students and parents will sign a form that will be kept on file at each school acknowledging these deadlines and requirements.

*Administration Window:* May 2016

**Pre-K Assessments**

**Brigance**

*Administration Window:* July 29-August 12, 2015 & May 2016

*Purpose & Use:* The basic assessments provide a sampling of a child’s learning, development, and skills in key areas, such as language, motor ability, number skills, body awareness, and visual discrimination.  The assessment allows teachers to see students’ strengths and needs to better plan and meet their educational needs during Pre-K.

**ESI-R, Early Screening Inventory**

Administration Window: August 2015; May 2016

*Purpose & Use:* ESI-R is a brief developmental screening sampling student skills across areas of language, reasoning, gross motor, fine motor, and social development.  It focuses on developmental rather than experience-based abilities.  The assessment assists teachers in planning and classroom instruction to better support each individual student.