



Kinesha Ponder
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Dear Richmond County Families,

We are excited to share that our district will use the *i-Ready* Reading and Mathematics program again this year.

What is i-Ready?

i-Ready is an online program that helps teachers understand your child's strengths and growth areas to personalize learning and monitor progress throughout the school year. *i-Ready* allows us to meet your child where they are and to help them succeed.

The *i-Ready Diagnostic* is an online test that assigns questions based on what your child knows. Each question builds on understanding of the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a series of incorrect answers will result in slightly easier questions. Our teachers will use this test at the beginning, middle and end of the school year as a tool to review and support your child's learning. This test is to help our teachers plan for your child and does not count toward student grading.

How you can help your child

To help your child prepare for the *i-Ready Diagnostic*, encourage them to:

- Get a good night's sleep and eat a full breakfast on i-Ready test days.
- Try their best on each question and take their time.
- Read questions carefully and not worry if they do not know all the answers.
- Be respectful of other students who take longer to finish.
- Use paper and pencil to work out the answers to math questions.

What happens next?

The beginning of the year *i-Ready Diagnostic* window opens on August 23. We will share your child's results after every test. Teachers will provide a learning experience to engage your child while teaching important skills and concepts. Encourage your child to spend 35-40 minutes per week completing personalized English Language Arts (ELA) and Math lessons in i-Ready. More information about *i-Ready* is available at i-readycentral.com/familycenter. If you have any questions about *i-Ready*, please contact your child's teacher.

As always, thank you for your continued support and for being a valued partner in your child's learning.

Sincerely,

Kinesha Ponder
Director of Teaching and Learning

Learning Today... Leading Tomorrow

JOHN M. TUTT MIDDLE SCHOOL

...Home of the Dragons...



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Dear Parents:

During the course of the school year, your student will participate in district and state assessments that provide teachers with information about your child's progress. The calendar below shows the timeframe in which your student may participate in an assessment and the purpose of these assessments.

Assessment	Grade Levels	Dates	Purpose
Universal Screener (iReady)	Grades 6-8	Aug.23-Sept. 17 Jan. 5-27 Apr. 24- May 5	Data to inform instruction and measure growth for students in ELA and Math. Administered three times a year (beginning, middle, and end)
PSAT 8/9	Grade 8	Feb. 22	National assessment to provide students and parents with data to begin preparation for college entrance. (SAT)
Content Mastery Assessments (CMA)	Grades 6-8	CMA 1: Sept. 26-Oct. 6 CMA 2: Dec 5-16 CMA 3: Feb. 27-Mar. 10	A series of short assessments to monitor student progress toward mastery of standards taught in the classroom
Georgia Milestones Assessment (GMAS)	Grades 6-8	ELA – April 17 & 18 Math – April 19 & 20 Science – April 21 Social Studies – April 24	State assessments given at the end of the year.

Parents can assist students on these assessments by:

- 1) **Make school attendance a priority** = Being present and on time for school is one of the best ways that you can help your student be successful on assessments.
- 2) **Communicate regularly with your child's teacher** = Regular communication with your child's teacher can help you monitor your child's progress.
- 3) **Talk with your child about testing** = Explain the purpose of the assessment and help your child understand how teachers will use the information to help them grow.
- 4) **Offer positive encouragement** = Encourage your student to do his/her best and let your student know that he/she is ready for the assessment.
- 5) **Support healthy habits** = Help your child have healthy meals and a regular sleep schedule.
- 6) **Follow up with your child after the assessment** = Talking about how your child felt about the assessment can help them overcome any anxiety they may feel about assessments.