

March 20, 2008, 2008

Dear Highland Park Families:

Spring break is fast approaching! There will be no school from March 31st through April 4th. School will resume on April 7th. We hope that our families will enjoy a well-deserved break before we begin our final months of school.

Our THIRD, FOURTH, and FIFTH GRADE students will be participating in the WASL (Washington Assessment For Student Learning) during the weeks of April 14th through April 25th. Third grade students will be tested in the areas of math and reading. Fourth grade students will be tested in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics and fifth graders will be tested in the areas of reading, math and science. These assessments include short and extended writing responses in addition to multiple-choice questions. The items are referenced to the state Essential Academic Learning Requirements that set high academic standards for our students.

Please encourage your child to do his or her best on these assessments. Making sure your child has breakfast and is well rested are two things that can help your child work to his or her potential. It is also very important that students be present and at school on time during testing days. We will send home a schedule of testing times for each grade level after spring break. Please contact your child's teacher for questions about specific classroom-testing schedules.

The week of April 14th, student placement input forms will be available in our main office. These forms will provide parents the opportunity to provide us with important information that will be helpful as we prepare to make classroom assignments for the 2008-2009 school year. **These are not intended for specific teacher requests, rather information about your child's learning needs and experiences.** Please contact Margaret Young in the school office for additional information.

Thank you for all you do to partner with us at Highland Park. We could not do our work without your continued support!

Sincerely,

Ann Gray

Principal