

Fall 2009 Assessments

As many of you know, Boulder Valley requires that we formally assess the reading and math proficiency of our elementary students in the fall and spring each school year. Once again we will be doing the fall testing before school starts. This document is designed to give you more detailed information about the process.

Purpose: Teachers will be able complete the reading and math assessments during two days prior to the first official day of elementary school. They will meet individually with students for 30 minutes (grades 1-5) or 1 hour (kindergarten) during the days of August 14th & 17th. After scoring the assessments teachers will know their students' reading levels and be able to deliver targeted instruction right away.

Schedule: A sign-up sheet will be with posted with class lists on August 12th. Parents will need to come and sign-up for a time when they can commit to bringing their students to school for assessments.

Assessment Dates & Times

August 14th: 8:30 – 11:30 & 1:00-3:00

August 17th: 8:30 – 11:30 & 1:00-3:00

During Assessment: Parents need to arrive 5-10 minutes early to assure that we stay on schedule and every family's time is valued. Check-in will be located in the small gym. Once a student has checked in we will have a volunteer ambassador walk him/her to the assessment location. Parents are then invited to walk through the "Parent Fair" that will also be located in the small gym. This Parent Fair will include beginning of the year permission slips, a school store, volunteer sign-ups and information about PTO and SIT, and beverages and a light snack. All students will meet their parents back in the small gym when they are finished with their assessment.

School Supplies: If you pre-ordered school supplies through Foothill's PTO in the spring, the boxes of supplies will be delivered to your children's classrooms for the first day of school. If you are purchasing your supplies independently, you may bring the supplies with you to the assessment.

School Start Date: Classes will officially start on for all students in grades 1-5 on Thursday, August 20th. Kindergarten will hold its traditional staggered start. Half the class will come Thursday August 20th and the other half on Friday. A smaller class on their "first" day helps to create a personalized welcome, support their individual needs, and establish classroom expectations. Your staggered start day will be posted along with class assignments on Wednesday, August 12th.

We will have reminders on the website, the parent email list, and a post card home this summer to keep parents informed.