Dear Parent/Guardian,

This spring, your child participated in a new state test in English language arts and math known as the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers or PARCC test. This test measured the more rigorous expectations that Louisiana has established for what students should learn and be able to do in order to be successful in the next grade level, and ultimately, in college and the workplace. The new test replaced traditional multiple-choice statewide tests and instead included questions that required students to explain their reasoning. Results from this test, along with your child’s performance in the classroom, will give you and your child’s teacher a more accurate picture of their readiness for the next grade level.

Your child’s score may be lower this year because the tests measured more complex, real-world skills such as critical-thinking, writing, and problem solving. A low score does not mean your child did not improve or learned less. It simply means that the expectations have been raised for all students. These increased expectations are consistent with those that have been established for students in the same grade level in other states, including some of our nation’s top performing states. The results, therefore, now provide more meaningful information about how Louisiana students are learning as compared with their peers nationally.

I hope you will find that the attached report provides you with more detailed information about your child’s learning. Each subject is broken down into subcategories of skills and content to identify where a student is doing well and where he or she needs some additional help. We encourage you to talk to your child’s teacher for additional information on how your child is performing in class as well as to discuss how he or she can be further supported in school. You can also access the *Parent Guide to PARCC Student Results* for more information on how to read and interpret your child’s report: [http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/family-support-toolbox-resources/parent-guide-to-parcc-student-reports.pdf](http://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/family-support-toolbox-resources/parent-guide-to-parcc-student-reports.pdf?sfvrsn=2).

If you have any further questions about your child’s results, please contact us at **[insert school phone number]**. Thank you for your support as we work together to ensure that all students are as successful as any student in America, and are prepared to achieve their full potential.

Thank you,