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February 8, 2019

Dear Sky View Families,

Our goal is to make sure we have rich and reliable information about how our students are performing academically. This helps us to assess the strengths and weaknesses of our teaching and curriculum. We are implementing the following plan to meet this goal:

- All students will take Proficiency Testing in April to demonstrate achievement levels in Language Arts, Math, and Science.
- Proficiency testing scores will count as 20% of students' fourth-quarter grade in each of the three subject areas.
- The Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (OAKS), used for the Oregon School Report Card, is the state-adopted method of testing.
- Any student opting out of OAKS in Language Arts or Math will take an alternative test, which is equivalent in length, content, format, and rigor. They will take this test in the same setting and at the same time as students participating in OAKS.

For the past few years, our school has had a high percentage of parents opting students out of Oregon State testing. Less than 50% of our students tested last year, leaving us with inconclusive data regarding our students' academic performance. Our low participation rate has had negative effects, including a low overall rating on the Oregon School Report Card and an inaccurate picture of our school's rigor, climate, and culture of caring.

It is our responsibility to know how students are performing and use that knowledge to inform teaching and planning. **Our goal is 100% participation in OAKS testing**; we ask for your partnership as we engage in Proficiency Testing this April. Please see our school website and Facebook page for more information, and plan to join us in the Sky View Library on **Tuesday, March 12 at 6:00 p.m.** for a presentation and Q & A session.

Sincerely,

Scott Olszewski, Principal Sky View Middle School