

January 14, 2015

Dear FGCS 4th Grade Parent or Guardian:

FGCS 4th grade students have been selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subject areas. NAEP is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from state assessments because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

Note: FGCS is required by federal law to administer this assessment, but students are not required to participate. Parents may decline to have their students to participate. To withhold your student from participation in the assessment, test coordinator Karen Torry by email at k.torry@fgcschool.org or by phone at 503-359-4600 no later than Fri., Feb. 27. Please provide your name and your student's first and last names in your message. Please contact Karen Torry with any questions.

The NAEP assessment will be given at FGCS on Tuesday, March 3. Your child and all FGCS 4th grade students have been selected to take a mathematics, reading, or science assessment. In addition to answering questions in one of these subjects, students will be asked questions about themselves and their educational experiences, such as the amount of reading they do and the types of classes they take. These questions provide contextual information for the assessment, as well as information that may be related to students' learning. If you would like to view sample subject area and contextual questions, please visit <http://nationsreportcard.gov/parents.asp>.

It will take about 90 minutes for most students to participate in the assessment. The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347), and the information provided will be used for statistical purposes only. Your child's grades will not be affected. Your child may be excused from participation for any reason, is not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any test question.

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP. We do ask, however, that you encourage your child to do their best and get plenty of rest the night before the assessment. A brochure that explains what participation in NAEP means for you and your child is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>.

If you have questions, please contact school test coordinator Karen Torry at k.torry@fgcschool.org or 503-359-4600.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Gray, Principal