

Principal Guidance for Testing During Ramadan

Dear Building Leaders,

The following was created through collaboration between Assessment and Family Community Partnerships, as well as consultation with an expert in the observance of Ramadan. Thank you for your interest and willingness to support all students during state summative testing. Please contact us with any additional questions and/or concerns you may have.

- The Ramadan observance will begin around May 4 or 5, as it is based on the lunar calendar, and will end around the first week of June.
- Some students may participate in fasting, where they will not eat during daylight hours.
- Fasting students can be supported by scheduling tests earlier in the school day when their energy levels may be higher. Try to avoid later in the school day if possible.
- The last 10 days of Ramadan are known to be the most difficult for fasting students; something to keep in mind when scheduling tests.
- Families may allow their children to break the fast for important school events, or participate in partial day fasting, if they know in advance.
- Staff should monitor fasting students for fatigue during this time.
- If a parent requests testing to occur before the start of Ramadan for their child, you can make a reasonable attempt to honor that request.
- While it is common practice to offer snacks to students during testing, staff should take into consideration that a fasting student would not be able to eat.
- Teachers may create projects for students to work on quietly at lunch time. Schools may also provide a quiet reading/resting room for students during lunch/snack time.
- Consider having an alternate lunch location for students who are fasting.
- **Inform all families of your school's testing dates as soon as possible.**

Thank you and best wishes for the summative testing season!

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