

DEAR FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF SPARK...

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, our students will be taking their standardized tests on Wednesday, October 13th. Details on the tests and testing procedures were provided in last week's newsletter. The list of essential information is repeated here for your convenience.

- ✓ Teachers are providing **practice tests** for the students to take and review in classes so that they are familiar with the testing process and format.
- ✓ Teachers will have the students complete the **identification** portion of the testing answer sheet before the testing date to get that portion of the testing process out of the way.
- ✓ The testing date is **Wednesday, October 13th**.
- ✓ The only preparation needed for these tests is a good night's sleep and breakfast.
- ✓ Student arrival time is **7:30 to 7:45 am**.
- ✓ Students must be in their testing rooms by **7:50**.



- ✓ Each student is asked to bring two **No.2 pencils**. We will also have extra pencils for the students.
- ✓ Testing will begin after **8:00 am** once the students are all seated.
- ✓ The procedure for all aspects of testing are strictly regulated by the College Board and must be followed completely.
- ✓ Students will be seated by the teacher proctoring their test.
- ✓ Students may not choose their seats.
- ✓ As part of the security associated with College Board testing, materials must be distributed and



collected as required by the College Board.

- ☑ Teachers must map each testing room according to students, test booklets, and answer sheets.
- ☑ Timing and procedures for breaks, restrooms, etc., are all to be conducted in a strictly prescribed manner.
- ☑ Phones, smartwatches, or any similar devices must be collected from the students at the start of the test. They will, of course, be returned after.
- ☑ Students take one of the math tests with the use of calculators, and one without them. Students will learn from their math teachers which types of

calculators are allowed.

- ☑ We will have spare calculators for students to use should they not have one or a problem with the calculator develops during the test.
- ☑ Students may bring snacks. Snack time is regulated by the College Board during specific times.
- ☑ Those 3rd year students taking MCC Calculus I that morning will be taking their PSAT/NMSQT beginning at 10:00.

APPROXIMATE DISMISSAL TIMES FOR TESTING DAY...

Each testing room will begin at a slightly different time from the rest. Therefore, dismissal times can only be approximate. We will not be conducting afternoon classes.

Students in their **first year** will be taking the PSAT 8/9 which lasts approximately 2 hours, 35 minutes. Their dismissal time will be approximately at **10:45**.

Students in their **second and third years** will be taking the PSAT/NMSQT which lasts approximately 2 hours, 55 minutes. Their dismissal time will be approximately **11:00**.

Student beginning their test after their MCC Calculus I Class will begin their PSAT/NMSQT at 10:00 and will be dismissed at approximately 1:00.

Please direct any questions regarding testing to our guidance counselor, Ms. Minery, at melissa.minery@sparkacademynh.org.

STUDENT LUNCHES...

We like to have lunch options on hand for students who forget their lunch or who are unable to bring their lunch on any given day. The reasons vary, but the need is the same. Due to your generosity and that of the staff, we always try to have something on hand to help ensure that all our students have lunch. Our supplies are running low, and we could use your help either with non-perishable food items or contributions for the purchase of these items. We all need help at times and can pay-it-forward at other times. This is all part of being a caring community. Please contact Mrs. Larochelle to arrange your donation.



COLUMBUS DAY...

Columbus Day is Monday, October 11. There will be no classes on that date.



DRESS CODE...

Dress code is always an area of school rules that we need to be reminded of from time to time. For your convenience, the school dress code is included in this newsletter. **As new trends or styles are introduced to our school community, I will clarify the dress code with respect to those items. In this light, I am emphasizing the need to avoid midriff-baring shirts in school as a means of maintaining modest and appropriate dress.**

The guiding principles for student dress are that clothing be modest, clean, respectful, appropriate, and safe. Clothing with messages of any kind may not be worn. T-shirts may be worn in warm weather and when student safety will not be a concern. Long pants are required due to the nature of Spark classes wherein shorts would present a hazard. Shorts may only be worn when the director indicates that a school day will be safe and appropriate for the students to do so. Shoes must enclose the entire foot for reasons of safety.

All clothing must fit appropriately. Torn clothing is not allowed. For some classes, jewelry of any kind may be a hazard and will be prohibited. Students may not wear sunglasses indoors unless for medical reasons.

Specific dress code direction will be given for activities such as field trips or outdoor exploration.

PHOTOS...

Our photos this week are from Wednesday's fun in the sun and fresh air. We hope you all have a good weekend! Please remember to check our calendar on the Spark Website (<https://www.sparkacademynh.org>) for upcoming important dates. and check our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SparkAcademyNH/> for more photos from this week.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denis Mailloux".

Denis Mailloux

Director