



JUNIPER RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Foundation Skills Assessment 2017

January, 2017

Dear Parents of Grade 4 and 7 Students,

RE: Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA)

Each year, students in grades 4 and 7 are administered Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA). Below, please find information regarding the assessments and how they are administered in our district.

- The Foundation Skills Assessment is administered to grade 4 and 7 students in all public and provincially funded private schools in British Columbia.
- The FSA is designed and developed in BC under the guidance of the Ministry of Education.
- **All students** attending a public or provincially funded private school are expected to write the FSA. **Principals and teachers do not have the authority to excuse students from writing.** The only students who may be exempt are students designated and on an IEP or have a designated medical disability that would prevent them from writing the assessment. If students are in attendance during the scheduled provincial FSA from January 9 to February 17, 2017 they will be required to participate.
- The FSA takes approximately 270 minutes (4.5 hours) spread over two to three weeks. Students will respond to questions online and in written form in assessment booklets.
- The results for schools and districts are made public (not for individuals). The Ministry and District does not support the rating or ranking of schools based on FSA results. FSAs are only a single assessment of student performance and do not accurately reflect the whole learning picture in a school or district.
- In School District 73, schools will administer the FSA between January 9 to February 10, 2017. Parents will receive their child's test booklet and an assessment summary by the end of March.

For further information, please refer to the parent information pamphlet our school website at: (<http://juniper-ridge.sd73.bc.ca/>).

Respectfully,
Mike Bowden
Principal