



Holyoke High School  
 500 Beech Street  
 Holyoke, MA 01040  
 (413)534-2020 / (413) 534-2144 Fax

Lori McKenna, Principal  
 Nissette Gonzalez Assistant Principal  
 Juraye Pierson, Assistant Principal  
 Juan Maldonado, Culture Coordinator

April 12, 2021

Dear 10th Grade Families,

We wanted to bring you an update on MCAS exams for sophomores at Holyoke High School. Passing the Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA) MCAS exams remain graduation requirements for the class of 2023. Because last year’s spring exams were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the move to remote school, we will be hosting in-person testing for all sophomores who need to demonstrate proficiency in ELA and Math MCAS to earn their high school diploma.

The MCAS tests are an important part of our state’s efforts to improve the achievement of every child in Massachusetts. MCAS results are used to determine how well our school is doing in comparison to other schools in the district and the state. The tests measure how well students have learned the academic standards for each grade level in the core subject areas listed in the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

The exams must be taken in person, on campus and will be computer-based. All students in the Class of 2023 (currently in grade 10) will take 2 exams, ELA and Math.

<b>10th Grade ELA</b>	<b>Monday, May 3rd and Tuesday, May 4th</b>
<b>10th Grade Math</b>	<b>Thursday, May 6th and Friday, May 7th</b>

All exams will begin at 9:00am. Please bring your **fully charged chromebook** to the test with your charger. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm upon completion of the exam. Students who have not completed the test by noon will be able to continue testing however they will need their own transportation to their home.

As with all things pandemic related, completing the MCAS exam requirement will take patience, creativity, courage and commitment. We know that these qualities describe both our students and our faculty and staff, and we are equal parts grateful and proud of them. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your school counselor or Evelyn Davis, our testing coordinator at [edavis@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:edavis@hps.holyoke.ma.us).

Sincerely,

Lori McKenna, Principal



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