**NORTH EAST CAROLINA PREP TESTING PROGRAM**

As a North Carolina Public Charter School, NECP is required by both North Carolina and Federal regulations to assess student academic progress and growth through a Standardized Testing program on a yearly or semester basis. The purpose of the testing program is to provide both school-wide and individual student data regarding student achievement on both State and National academic standards through the administration of the North Carolina End of Grade and End of Course tests. Through the data gained from the testing results, the administration and individual instructional staff members can develop and better understanding of the academic strengths and needs of each student who attends our school. Additionally, this same data provides the school administration with a picture of areas instruction that are having an effective and positive impact on student learning. Likewise, this same data provides administrators with unbiased information regarding areas that need to be adjusted or revamped in terms of increasing instructional effectiveness to positively impact student academic growth and understanding.

The following are tests required by the State of North Carolina and are administered at North East Carolina Prep.

**Grades K - 8**

* **Beginning of Grade 3 Test** - This test is given to all 3rd grade students to establish a baseline for the student’s reading comprehension skills at the beginning of their 3rd grade year. This test is a required part of North Carolina’s Read to Achieve legislation and is aligned to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for English Language Arts and Reading. The test is administered between the 11th and 15th day of the school year.
* **End of Grade Reading & Math Tests** – These tests are given to all students in grades 3 through 8 and evaluates student progress and understanding of the grade level standards in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for English Language Arts, Reading and Math. The tests are administered during the last 10 days of school.
* **End of Grade Science Test** - This test is given to all students in grades 5 and 8 and evaluates student progress and understanding of the grade level standards in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Science. The test is administered during the last 10 days of school.
* **Read to Achieve Alternative Test** – This test is given to 3rd grade students who do not score a minimum Level 3 on the Beginning of Grade 3 test or Reading EOG test. It is an alternative measure of student learning in English Language Arts and Reading. This test is administered at the end of the school year or in Summer School.

**Grades 9 – 12**

* **Biology End of Course Test** – This test is given to all students upon their completion of Biology. The test evaluates student progress and understanding of the learning standards set forth in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Biology. The test is administered during the last 5 days of the semester in which the course is taken.
* **English 2 End of Course Test** – This test is given to all students upon their completion of English 2, (usually during the student’s 10th grade year). The test evaluates student progress and understanding of the learning standards set forth in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for English Language Arts and Reading in English 2. The test is administered during the last 5 days of the semester in which the course is taken.
* **Math 1 and Math 3 End of Course Tests** – These tests are given to all students upon their completion of Math 1 and Math 3. The tests evaluate student progress and understanding of the learning standards set forth in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Math 1. The test is administered during the last 5 days of the semester in which the course is take.
* **Career Technical Education, CTE, Tests** – The CTE tests are given to students who take Career and Technical Education courses such and Agriculture, Business and Finance and other such courses here at NECP. The tests evaluate student progress and understanding of the learning standards established in the Course Blueprints. The tests are administered in the last 5 days of the semester in which the course was taken.
* **North Carolina Final Exam, (NCFE)** – If your student takes some courses via the North Carolina Virtual Public High School, (online courses), they may have to take a NCFE. Required NCFE tests are in English, Math, Science and some History courses. Please speak with your guidance counselor to see if your online course requires a NCFE.
* **ACT** - All 11th grade students must take the ACT College Entrance Exam. This is a Federal requirement that assesses student growth. The test is a standardized college entrance exam that covers student knowledge in Reading, Writing, Math and Reasoning. Student results can be used as a replacement for colleges and university entrance requirements as long as the school accepts both the SAT and ACT. The test, which normally costs $62.50, is given a no cost for NC 11th grade students and students are allowed to report scores to 3 schools at no cost.

**Details About the Various Tests**

**End of Grade English Language Arts/Reading and End of Course English 2** tests are multiple choice tests in which the students are asked to select the correct answer out of four choices. Students read a literary or informational passage and then answer a series of questions about the content of passage. On the English 2 test, students must respond to a series of questions with written short answer responses otherwise known as constructed response.

**End of Grade Math, Science, End of Course Math, Biology and CTE** tests are multiple choice tests in which the students are asked to select the correct answer out of four choices. On some math test questions, the student must fill in a gridded response question where they actually have to write out the numerical answer that is a fraction, contains decimal points or has a positive or negative sign.

**End of Grade** tests, at the current time, may be given in a paper/pencil format or online with one exception. EOG Science tests must be given in the online format. Currently the State of NC is moving towards all EOG tests being given in the online format. The average time allowed for EOG tests is around 3 hours.

**End of Course tests and CTE** tests must be given online unless the student has an IEP that requires the test be given in a paper/pencil format. There are stringent guidelines that must be followed in order for a student to qualify for a paper/pencil format. The average time allowed for EOC and CTE tests is around 3 hours.

**TESTING CALENDAR**

The BOG-3 test is given between the 11th and 15th day of the school year

EOG tests are given during the last 10 days of the school year

EOC and CTE tests are given the last 5 days of each semester

The ACT test is normally given in late February or March

The Read to Achieve Alternative test is given during the last 10 days of the school year, at the end of summer school and again in November.

***The State of NC has detailed information regarding the testing program at this web address***:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/>

If you need more information regarding the testing program at NECP, do not hesitate to contact the Director of Testing and Accountability who is Dennis Hart. Mr. Hart may be reached by the following methods:

* Phone – 252.641.0464 Ext 1144.
* Email – hartwd@necprepschool.com