



**VERNON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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**Susan L. Nogaj Matteson, M.A., Ed. M.A.**  
Director of School Counseling and Testing K-12  
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September 14, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On July 13, 2022, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) notified districts that the New Jersey *Start Strong* will be administered as part of the overall statewide assessment system. Vernon Township Public Schools will administer the mandatory *Start Strong* assessment this month.

The *Start Strong* assessments are intentionally brief, designed to maximize instructional time and provide data to teachers and school leaders based on the prior year academic standards. Each assessment is approximately 45-60 minutes and will be administered during the school day the week of September 19th. *Start Strong* includes the same accessibility features and accommodations as the NJSLA. If you have any questions regarding your child’s testing accommodations, please contact your child’s case manager or school counselor.

**\*Students must bring their fully charged Chromebook on testing days.**

Each building has a schedule for the Strong Testing assessment and that will be communicated to parents at a later date. If you have any questions, please contact your child’s Principal. Also please visit our website for information as it is updated.

**2022 Fall Start Strong Testing Information**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Grades tested</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Unit Length</b>
English Language Arts	Grades 4-10	1	60 minutes
Mathematics*	Grades 4-8 Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II	1	60 minutes
Science	Grades 6, 9 & 12	1	60 minutes

\*Students in grades 7-12 who are enrolled in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II will take the subject-level Mathematics Start Strong exam.

**2022-23 Assessments**

The annual Assessment Schedule for the upcoming school year is available at this [link](#). Testing dates and times at individual schools will be forthcoming. This Assessment Schedule is posted on the district’s homepage at <https://www.vtsd.com/digital-backpack/> and will be updated as additional information becomes available.

Sincerely,

**Susan L. Nogaj Matteson**

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Director of School Counseling Services and Testing  
Vernon Township Schools