



GLENWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ■ 3550 S. 51st Street ■ Greenfield, Wisconsin 53220 ■
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Jenna Zizzo, Principal

March 5, 2024

Dear Families of Students in Grades 3-5,

Our third, fourth, and fifth grade students at Glenwood will be assessed in March or April using the Wisconsin Forward Exam. This assessment will measure students' cumulative progress from past school years in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Students in fourth grade will also be assessed in Science and Social Studies. The test will be taken on a computer. The Forward Exam will be administered during the morning portion of the following days:

- Fourth Grade – March 18th (Science), March 20th (Social Studies), April 3rd (ELA), and April 5th (Math)
- Fifth Grade – April 9th (Math), April 10th (ELA), and April 12th (ELA)
- Third Grade – April 15th (Math), April 17th (ELA), April 18th (Math) and April 19th (ELA)

The results of these tests can give parents, teachers, and administrators valuable information about children's progress in school and about the effectiveness of school programs. You will receive test results that will provide your child's measured achievement in each tested area.

It is important to note that standardized tests are only one way to assess your child's progress. Student performance on the exam does not affect any of their current grades. Your communication with your child's teacher can tell you about classroom performance, personal improvement, and consideration of other areas of development. Collaborating with school staff members about expectations, supporting school programs, and supporting learning outside of school can go a long way to ensure that your child continually develops knowledge, concepts, skills, and responsibility.

Over the next few weeks, students will be working with their teachers to become more comfortable with the test format. Teachers will also talk with students about the test and its importance, while keeping stress and anxiety about the assessment to a minimum.

Attendance during the weeks of your child's test window is very important so that your child can test in his/her classroom environment or in a familiar small group setting. Please refrain from dropping off late and/or pulling your child out of school during his/her week of testing. We also ask that you make sure your child gets a full night of sleep and a healthy breakfast during our testing time frame. Additionally, for the test, your child will need a working pair of earbuds/headphones of their own brought from home. Please check to make sure that your child has their own headphones at school and they are in good working order.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this important topic, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or me. If you have additional questions about the Forward Exam, please visit the FAQs page on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/parent-info/faq>

Sincerely,

Jenna Zizzo, Principal