



Dear Empowerment Community,

In the spring of 2019, scholars in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade participated in the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) administration to measure their academic performance with grade level content as defined in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). These assessments are just one of the many ways your scholar’s teacher and administrators can determine whether he or she is on track for the next grade, and how we are doing as a school.

The Individual Student Reports (ISRs) have been developed based on feedback from parents/guardians and educators. There are also charts and graphics that show you how well your student is performing in relation to the [New Jersey Student Learning Standards](#), and how your student’s performance compares to other students in his or her school, district and state. Those reports have been distributed to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders.

**An addition to the ISR score reports, for the testing results, there is an online portal for parents/guardians.** The online portal will include the scholar’s scale score, quick access to resources that fit your student’s needs, and a video score report. The portal will also allow for you to track your scholar’s scores from year to year, beginning with Spring 2019. **To access the online portal, you must create an account using the unique claim code that is located on your student’s paper ISR.**

**Below is a snapshot of how Empowerment Academy’s 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> scholars performed on the Spring 2019 NJSLA:**

**NJSLA or PARCC?** Recently, the state of NJ followed many other states and developed their own state standards. Whereas our statewide assessments were called The PARCC Assessment, it is now referred to as the NJSLA Assessment. This stands for the **New Jersey Student Learning Assessment**.

**Which Subjects are Tested?**

Students in NJ are tested in both ELA (English Language Arts) and Mathematics beginning in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and into high school; in the Spring of 2020 Empowerment Academy’s 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade scholars will test in ELA and Math. In 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades, NJ students will take the Science Assessment. Our Empowerment 5<sup>th</sup> grade scholars will take the science assessment this spring (Spring 2020)

**How Are Students Assessed in Each Subject?**

Each test is separated into specific reporting categories that represent related content or skills. There are variety of different question types: multiple choice, short answer and technology enhanced items. Newly available this year is the **Digital Item Library**, which provides access to released items from the NJSLA ELA and mathematics assessments. Tools available in the library can help search for specific items, or sort items by Evidence Statements or standards. The items are displayed online and allow for users to view and interact with the items in the exact same manner as student test-takers. Additional released items will continue to be added as they become available.



**Empowerment Academy’s Performance NJSLA 2019**

- **Grade 4:** In 2019, Empowerment tested 97 scholars in Math and 95 scholars in ELA:
  - Of the 97 scholars tested in Math, **45.4% met or exceeded Expectations**
    - **Across the state of NJ 51% met or exceeded expectations**
  - Of the 95 scholars tested in ELA, **62.1% met or exceeded Expectations**
    - **This was higher than the state of NJ (57.4% Met or Exceeded Expectations)**
- **Grade 3:** In 2019, Empowerment tested 118 scholars in Math and 117 scholars in ELA:
  - Of the 118 scholars tested in Math, **46.6% met or exceeded Expectations**
    - **Across the state of NJ 55.1% of students met or exceeded expectations**
  - Of the 117 scholars tested in ELA, **62.4% met or exceeded Expectations**
    - **This was higher than the state of NJ (50.3% Met or Exceeded Expectations)**

Should you have any questions, you can contact our Data Coordinator, Ms. Kamilah Heartwell at (201) 630-4798, ext. 1040.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Gigl in collaboration with Ms. Heartwell  
Principal  
Empowerment Academy