



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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January 9th, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades 4 and 7:

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is an annual provincial assessment that will be conducted in Grade 4 and 7 classrooms across British Columbia between January 9 and February 17, 2017. Basic information about the FSA can be found on the reverse side of this letter. For more extensive information, please refer to the Ministry of Education provincial website (<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/info/welcome.htm>), which provides further details on all aspects of this assessment and its use, along with sample tests that can be used for practice.

The Ministry of Education expects all students to participate in this assessment. The results are not used to evaluate individual students, but serve as a provincial snapshot to provide information about how students in British Columbia are doing as a whole. Students may be excused due to a family emergency, lengthy illness or other extenuating circumstances that include lack of background in English or other learning difficulties.

You may receive a letter from your child's classroom teacher that outlines their concerns about the FSA. You may also receive additional FSA information that has been prepared by the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF) which is opposed to the administration of these assessments.

If you have any questions about these materials, how FSA will be conducted in your school or the implications for your child, please contact your school principal or vice-principal.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Lewis'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Lewis

Acting Superintendent

Vancouver School District

cc: Dianne Turner, Official Trustee