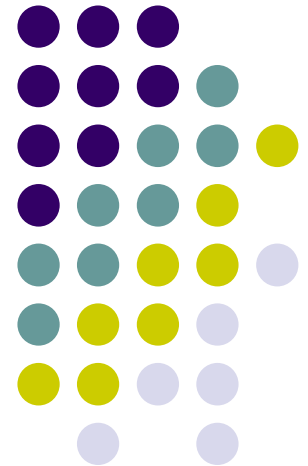


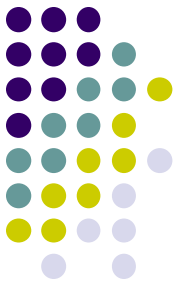
# Getting Ready for the NYS Tests

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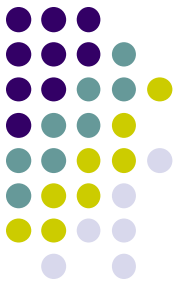
February 2, 2017



# Getting Ready for the NYS Tests



- What we learned from 15-16 results
- The tests: ELA & Math
- Instruction & test prep at Peck Slip
- What can you do to help at home?
- Tests Implications
- Q & A



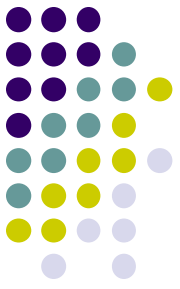
# What we learned from 15-16

- Overall: Stamina, more multiple choice skills
- ELA: Writing, inferring
- Math: Multi-step problems, Fractions



# Test Dates

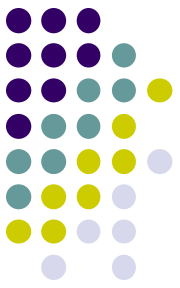
- ELA
  - March 28, 29, 30 (Tuesday – Thursday)
- Mathematics
  - May 2, 3, 4 (Tuesday – Thursday)



# The ELA Test:

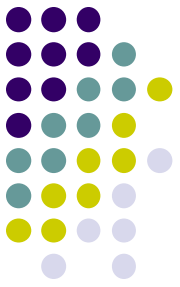
- Session 1
  - Read short passages & answer multiple choice questions.
- Session 2:
  - Read passages
  - Answer multiple choice questions.
  - Answer short response questions.
  - Plan & write essay (extended response).
- Session 3:
  - Read multiple passages, usually in two different genres.
  - Write short answers for both.
  - Plan and write a longer essay (in 4 & 5 comparing the two).

# How are we preparing your children for the ELA?

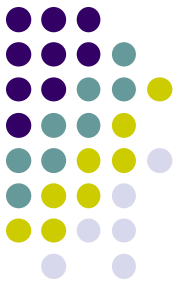


- Session One:
  - Multiple choice strategies
  - Right there vs. Off the Page
  - Main idea, sequencing, opinion/fact, vocabulary
  - Comprehension strategies (summarization)
  - *Attitude!* Act like this test is a video game
- Session Two:
  - Short-answer practice (restating the question in your answer)
  - Extended Response practice: Planning and writing. Making sure to include all details based on bulleted question.

# How are we preparing your children for the ELA?



- Session Three:
  - Writing Unit in Essays: introduction, evidence, conclusion (grades 4 & 5)
  - Learning what the test makers are looking for and what students' weaknesses are.
    - First, students draft written responses
    - Then they look at a level 3 & 4 response and describe its attributes.
    - Finally, they revise theirs to make it better, and note areas they need to focus on.

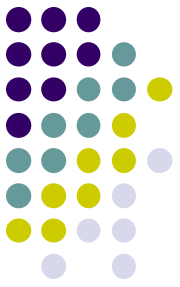


# The Math Test

- Session 1 & 2
  - Answer multiple choice questions (includes very little raw computation).
  - Use rulers (3 – 5) and protractors (4 & 5).
- Session 3
  - Solve single & multi-step problems.
  - Provide explanations.
  - Use rulers (3 – 5) and protractors (4 & 5).
  - Partial credit available.



# How are we preparing your children for the math test?



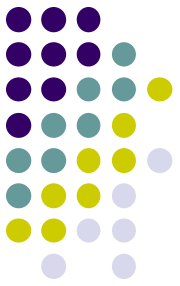
- Session 1 & 2:
  - Reading questions (all tests are reading tests)
  - Multiple choice strategies
  - Review of all content areas
  - Relying on reasoning – does that make sense?
- Session 3:
  - Understanding what test makers are looking for
  - Presenting work clearly & legibly
  - Reviewing work thoughtfully

# What can you do to help at home?



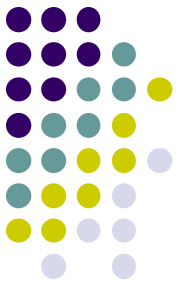
- Build stamina by increasing number of minutes your child reads each night.
- Read short texts of all kinds & genres.
- Brush up on math facts
- Practice checking writing & math work for errors.
- Involve your kids in everyday math
- Monitor your child's stress level
- Educate yourselves: Check out [www.emsc.nysed.gov/3-8/](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/3-8/)

# The Tests & Middle School



- Yes, middle schools look at test scores
- No, they are not an absolute cut-off
- Middle schools prefer their own entrance process (test, interview, group project)

# The Tests Implications



- Students are not held over on the basis of test scores.
- Screened middle schools look at test scores but by law they cannot be the sole or primary factor.