

Bethel Middle School

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NAEP 2017 PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION LETTER **Civics, geography, mathematics, reading, U.S. history, and writing assessments** **November 18, 2016**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Bethel Middle School 8th grade students will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on March 6, 2017. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessment because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

Your child might take an assessment in one of the following subjects: civics, geography, mathematics, reading, U.S. history, or writing. The assessment also asks students questions about their daily routine and their educational experiences. For example, students are asked if there is a computer at home and about the amount of reading they do. Student responses are anonymous, and they provide context and meaning to the assessment results. Please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/booklets.asp> to review sample questions.

The assessment takes about 120 minutes for most students. The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347).

The information collected is used for statistical purposes only.

- Your child's grades will not be affected.
- Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question.
- While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by December 16, 2016.

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. A brochure that explains what participation in NAEP means for you and your child is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>. Contact your child's counselor, Tara Dickie or Tanya Jacobs at (501)316-0937 or at tdickie@bryantschools.org or tjacobs@bryantschools.org if you have any questions.

We are excited that our school is participating in NAEP. We know that Bethel Middle School's students will show what our nation's students know and can do.

Sincerely,

Chris Gabe
School Principal

