



Look for info in this edition about PARCC expectations, Valentine Candy Grams, Family Sweetheart Dance, and Coffee with the Principal!

**PARENTS!**  
1/29/2015

**THURSDAY FOLDER – NVA WEEKLY COMMUNICATION**

March 9, 10 & 11 are *regular* school days with **no early release** or student-led conferences being held. 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report cards will go home on March 13.

April 15, 16 & 17 **will** be early release days (1:00) with student-led conferences being held.

**Just a reminder –**

- We will revive **Coffee with the Principal** – the first session will be **TOMORROW**, January 30 at 8:00 am. Come join us...in the teacher’s lounge.
- If you are interested in acting as a **test proctor** for sessions of the PARCC, please contact Ms. McConnell at the phone number or email address below. This would be for mornings in March, specifically 3/2,3,4,5. 3/9,10,11,12 and 3/17. Incidentally, it would be very helpful if you marked these dates on your calendars (3<sup>rd</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade) and tried *not* to schedule appointments, vacations, lunch dates, etc. for students. Our testing attendance is part of our state grade, and it is also information that will be helpful to you in terms of your child’s academic progress.
- **School-wide Health Day** is next Tuesday, Feb 2. Students may wear athletic clothes (workout clothes) and this does *not* include jeans.
- **Box-tops collection and contest ends February 20.** Turn ‘em in...
- **8th grade Parents** – there is a **School Choice Fair** being held next Thursday at the Convention Center. A great, one-stop shop to see what is available in the way of Charter High School programs. 5-8 p.m.
- **Family Sweetheart Dance** – sponsored by honor societies. Friday, February 13. Plan your Valentine’s date now. All students welcome, however must be chaperoned by parent(s). So, no middle school students unless their parents are with them... **6-8 p.m.**



**Myths in the Media – I learned something very important yesterday at Spring test-training and security!**

In the past there has been kind-of an opt-out option for standardized test taking, and that changed, actually, last year. There is **no opt-out** of the PARCC or any standardized test that is part of the “free and public education” that your child participates in, funded by public money. Schools are not required to provide an alternative activity to students whose parents do not want them to take the test. If a standardized test is part of the agenda for the day, all students must participate. Now, there has been some talk about this in the news, specifically by an APS board member, but I have included links to the regulations here, so that you can see this important information. “Federal and state laws require all students to participate in state accountability assessments (ESEA; HR1, Title1, Part A, Subpart 1. Section 1111, (b), 3, C). Now, on a lighter side – this is all more information regarding what your student knows, and where we go from here. Information is power...

Remember – your child’s development, education and best interest are what drives our passion for the job we do each day. We are on the same team!

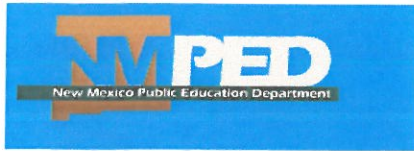
If you have questions, concerns, ideas, or kudos, please feel free to contact any of us.

[smcconnell@nvanm.org](mailto:smcconnell@nvanm.org) – 998-0501 x136

[rbarton@nvanm.org](mailto:rbarton@nvanm.org) – 998-0501 x129

Principal

Chief Operations Officer



Partnership for Assessment of  
Readiness for College and Careers

January 2015

## COUNTDOWN TO PARCC FOR FAMILIES

Educators use assessments to understand student mastery of content and skills, and to provide students with effective, individualized instruction. There are four types of assessments:

- **Formative Assessments** are typically informal “checks” administered frequently by teachers to monitor student progress and adjust teaching to help students learn.
- **Short-Cycle Assessments** are periodic (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, and/or monthly) assessments such as DIBELS, reading checks, learning logs, exit slips, quizzes, etc. that provide regular feedback to teachers. Results of short-cycle assessments help teachers ensure that students are learning and provide concrete feedback to help students improve their understanding and apply their knowledge.
- **Interim Assessments** are administered three times at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year. These tools measure student progress throughout the course of the year.
- **Summative Assessments** are formal assessments administered at the end of a unit, course, or year to determine a student’s proficiency of the standards at each grade level.

The PARCC tests are summative assessments that are taking the place of the SBA in English language arts (ELA) and math. Aligned with instruction, they assess student mastery of the Common Core State Standards, which are designed to better prepare our students for college and/or a career. The upcoming PARCC tests, which begin in early March, will provide teachers with important information about students’ learning to help support better instruction and increase student achievement.

### PARCC RESOURCES

In the past few months, PARCC has developed excellent resources to help students and their families become familiar with the PARCC assessments. In addition to general test information, the following resources are available for grades 3 – 11 in ELA and math:

- **Tutorials.** Located at <http://parcc.pearson.com/tutorial>, the tutorials will help familiarize students with the new computer platform (called TestNav), text-to-speech, online tools, and other resources.
- **Sample Items.** Available at <http://parcc.pearson.com/sample-items>, sample items are available in online and paper formats. In addition to providing practice with new types of test questions, the math sample items include practice with equation editors and online calculators.
- **Rubrics.** Available on the same webpage as the sample items, you will find rubrics for ELA writing questions. The rubrics show the number of points students can earn and skills students are expected to know.

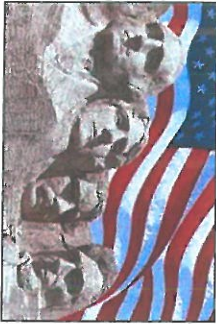

**Practice Tests.** You can find practice tests for grades 3 – 11 here: <http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests>.

Using online practice tests requires that computers have the appropriate hardware and software (<http://parcc-test.pearson.com/technology-setup>). If your home computer is unable to run the practice tests, they can be printed so students can practice PARCC questions on paper. Additionally, these practice tests are available in large print and Braille.



# North Valley Academy

# February 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 PLAIN BAGEL & CREAM CHEESE FRESH FRUIT  CHICKEN STICKS PINTO BEANS APRICOTS DINNER ROLL KETCHUP	3 BREAKFAST PIZZA FRESH FRUIT  LASAGNA WITH MEAT SAUCE BROCCOLI APPLESAUCE GARLIC BREAD	4 1 SLICE TOAST & SAUSAGE PATTIE / FRESH FRUIT  CHICKEN PATTIE ON A BUN GREEN BEANS PEACHES MUSTARD / MAYO	5 ASSORTED COLD CEREAL FRESH FRUIT  CORN DOGS OVEN FRENCH FRIES PINEAPPLE CHUNKS MUSTARD / KETCHUP	6 CHERRY FRUDEL FRESH FRUIT  PIZZA ITALIAN BLEND VEGETABLES MARINARA SAUCE MANDARIN ORANGES GARLIC BREAD
9 NUTRIGRAIN BAR & YOGURT FRESH FRUIT  GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP MIXED VEGETABLES MANDARIN ORANGES DINNER ROLL	10 WAFFLE STICKS FRESH FRUIT  LEMON PEPPER CHICKEN WHIPPED POTATOES BROWN GRAVY APRICOTS DINNER ROLL	11 SAUSAGE BISCUIT FRESH FRUIT  FRENCH TOAST STICKS HASH BROWNS SAUSAGE PATTIE FRESH FRUIT WHIPPED CREAM	12 BISCUIT & GRAVY FRESH FRUIT  STEAK FINGERS GREEN BEANS CINNAMON APPLE SLICES DINNER ROLL BBQ SAUCE	13 PANCAKE WRAP FRESH FRUIT  CHICKEN NUGGETS FRESH VEGETABLES FRESH FRUIT BBQ SAUCE
16 <b>PRESIDENTS' DAY</b> 	17 PB&J SANDWICH FRESH FRUIT  HAM & CHEESE WRAP TATER TOTS PINEAPPLE CHUNKS MUSTARD / MAYO	18 CHEESE OMELET FRESH FRUIT  MAX CHEESE STICKS MARINARA SAUCE CARROTS PEARS	19 REESE'S PUFFS FRESH FRUIT  FRITO PIE CORN FRESH FRUIT	20 BREAKFAST BURRITO FRESH FRUIT  PIZZA ITALIAN BLEND VEGETABLES MARINARA SAUCE MANDARIN ORANGES GARLIC BREAD
23 PLAIN BAGEL & CREAM CHEESE FRESH FRUIT  BEEF TACOS (HARD SHELL) PINTO BEANS APRICOTS PICANTE SAUCE	24 ENGLISH MUFFIN & SAUSAGE FRESH FRUIT  TORTILLA BURGER MIXED VEGETABLES FRESH FRUIT SLICED LETTUCE & TOMATO KETCHUP	25 CREAM OF WHEAT FRESH FRUIT  PHILLY STEAK SANDWICH OVEN FRENCH FRIES MANDARIN ORANGES KETCHUP 	26 ASSORTED MUFFINS FRESH FRUIT  MEATLOAF WHIPPED POTATOES BROWN GRAVY APPLESAUCE DINNER ROLL	27 PANCAKES FRESH FRUIT  CHICKEN NUGGETS FRESH VEGETABLES FRESH FRUIT


 Your cafeteria is managed by  
 Canteen of Central New Mexico

Food bar and variety of milk available daily  
 We use whole grain breads - All foods are baked

Full Lunch - \$2.75      Full Breakfast - \$1.50  
 Reduced Lunch - 40¢      Reduced Breakfast - 30¢  
 Adult Lunch - \$3.00



# The Soaring Eagle Newsletter

January 29, 2015  
nva-pt0.blogspot.com  
nvanmpto@gmail.com

## Upcoming Events...

Health Day  
February 3, 2015

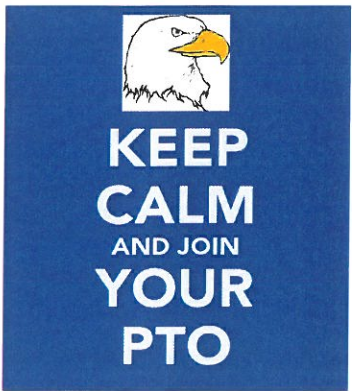
Red Robin Fundraiser  
February 11, 2015

NO SCHOOL  
February 16, 2015  
President's Day

### Spirit Shirts are on Sale NOW!

Two different styles available in children and adult sizes...

10 Year Maroon Short Sleeve (\$10.00)  
&  
Gray Long Sleeve (\$20.00)



## Donations Needed for the Doorway to the Arts Silent Auction!



PTO is looking for help from YOU! Do you have goodies you would like to donate to be included in this year's Doorway to the Arts Silent Auction? Donations can be anything from gift cards from your work, handmade crafts, and so much more! You can bring your donations to the front office (make sure to let them know it is for the PTO) or email us [nvanmpto@gmail.com](mailto:nvanmpto@gmail.com) and we will make arrangements with you to pick them up. Please support the PTO that supports our teachers and students!

# NVA Spirit Shirt Order Form

	10 Year Maroon Short Sleeve T-Shirt \$ 10.00 each	Eagle Gray Long Sleeve T-Shirt \$ 20.00 each
Adult X-Small		
Adult Small		
Adult Medium		
Adult Large		
Adult X-Large		
Youth X-Small		
Youth Small		
Youth Medium		
Youth Large		

Name of Student

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Homeroom Teacher's Name

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Cash or Check  
(Payable to NVA PTO)



Families,

First grade is raising funds for an upcoming field trip by selling candy grams for Valentine's Day. Each candy gram will be \$1.00. Last day to turn in orders will be February 12, 2015. Please support our efforts! Purchase  for your 

Sincerely,

First Grade



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Sincerely,

First Grade

Happy Valentine's Day

Name (First and Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

Name (First and Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

Happy Valentine's Day

Name (First and Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name (First and Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

Happy Valentine's Day

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From: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_