



May 2017

Dear SPMS Families,

As you know, our Pumas will be taking the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests and the Henrico Assessment Tests (HAT) this month. We know they will do an amazing job! Our students and teachers work diligently all year to prepare for these, they come with fantastic attitudes, and always take the tests very seriously. While receiving a passing, proficient, or advanced score on the SOL is a wonderful reward for hard work, we would also like to acknowledge our students' diligence by doing the following:

-For all core academic courses with an SOL test (see list below), every student who PASSES the SOL will earn a grade titled "SOL Participation" in the Test category for Marking Period 4.

- 95% grade for "Pass Proficient",
- 100% grade for "Pass Advanced", and
- 105% grade for a 600 Score, which is the highest score possible.
- If the student does not pass the SOL, then the grade will be "excused" and neither increase nor decrease the student's marking period average.
- *This is a win-win opportunity which could **significantly benefit** any student who would like to raise his/her MP4 grade.*
- Students who do not pass their specific SOL (scoring between 375-399) may take an "Expedited Retake" of the SOL after a brief remediation period (more information will follow).

**Core Academic Courses with an SOL Test:**

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English: Reading SOL

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Accelerated Social Studies and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Civics: Civics SOL

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Science and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science: Physical Science SOL

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math: Math SOL

*\*\*We will also be offering the MP4 test grade option for our core academic science courses taking a HAT (Henrico Assessment Test), which is the county practice version of the SOL. Students will not have the option of expedited retakes for HATs.*

-For all high school credit core academic courses with an SOL End-of-Course Test (see list on reverse side), we will follow the high school model, which is as follows:

- A student who passes the SOL End-of-Course Test has the *option to be exempt from taking a final exam* and to use their SOL "correlated grade" as the exam grade. The "correlated grade" is determined by the chart on the reverse side.
- A student may *elect to take the final exam* in the course and then select the higher of the two scores to count as the final exam grade.
- Students who do not pass the SOL End-of-Course Test **MUST** take the final exam **AND** will also take an "Expedited Retake" (if the score is within a specific range) of the SOL after a brief remediation period.
- Please remember, in high school credit courses, the exam grade is 10% of the semester average.

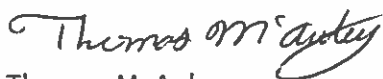
**High School Credit Core Academic Courses with an SOL End-of-Course Test:**

Algebra 1  
Earth Science  
Geometry  
World History 1

<b>SOL Score</b>	<b>Final Exam Grade</b>
600	100
576-599	98
551-575	95
526-550	93
500-525	90
491-499	89
481-490	87
471-480	85
461-470	83
451-460	80
441-450	79
431-440	77
421-430	75
411-420	73
400-410	70
375-399	Not passing; no correlated grade; must take final exam and SOL expedited retake
Below 375	Not passing; no correlated grade; must take final exam

Parents and Guardians, thank you for helping your child prepare by **getting plenty of rest** and by **restarting his/her laptop each evening**. Students should arrive at school by 8:25 A.M. with a **fully charged laptop** ready to highlight all they have learned this year! If you have any questions about these opportunities, please contact your child's school counselor at 804.360.0800. Best wishes for a great SOL testing experience!

Sincerely,



Thomas McAuley  
Principal