**Forestdale International School**

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**Malden, MA 02148**

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 Mr. Donald P. Concannon Mrs. Karie Carpenito

Principal Assistant Principal

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Dear Parents and Guardians, March 27, 2017

Starting on April 3, 2017 through May 26, 2017 we will begin the testing period for MCAS 2.0 in the following academic areas

* English Language Arts (ELA) test session window is **April 3rd–May 3rd**
* Math test session window is **April 4th–May 26th**
* Science and Technology test session window (5 and 8) **April 5th–May 26th**

The daily schedule is located on the school website. MCAS testing in English Language Arts and Mathematics is computer based. Science and Technology is paper and pencil. The tests are approximately 60-90 minutes in length.

**Your support during the testing period can make a difference in how well your children perform.** You can help them understand that while the MCAS tests are important, there is no need to stress over them. A few requests and suggestions that will help your child, and school logistics, are below. Your children have all participated in a MCAS test tutorial and MCAS practice test. You can view all the information about MCAS and view practice test, with your child or children at**,** [**http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/parents/**](http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/parents/) **we strongly recommend that parents and guardians view the MCAS site with their child.**

* **Please make every effort to get your child to school on testing days**. (Sick children, of course, should remain home.) Students who are absent will have to make up any tests they miss. As a result they will miss class time on the make-up day.
* **Make sure children arrive on time** (**7:45** for Gr. 7 & 8; **8:15** for Gr. K-6). Testing often starts first thing in the morning.See that they get **at least** **8-10 hours of sleep** the night before each test.
* **A healthy snack** (e.g. nuts, a high fiber granola bar, cheese and crackers, fruit) may be sent.

**V Chips, cookies, candy or other “junk food” and beverages other than water are not permitted.**

* For students who eat at home, provide **a breakfast high in protein and low in sugar**. **A high protein snack** (e.g. nuts, a high fiber granola bar, cheese and crackers) may be sent. Please – do not send cookies, candy or sweetened drinks.
* If you have any questions regarding the MCAS test please contact Mrs. Carpenito (Assistant Principal), Ms. Pullano (Guidance Counselor) or Mr. Concannon (Principal).

Thank you for your support,

Donald P. Concannon

Principal