## **Darlington Community School District**

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Notice of Parents Right-to-Know

Assessment Policy/Parent Opt-Out of Assessment Policy

RE: Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95), Section 1112 (e)(2)(A)

Dear Parent/Guardian:

You have the right to know about the mandated assessments your child participates in. The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that any school district receiving Title I funds must notify parents that they may request, and the district will provide the parents on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding any State or local educational agency policy regarding student participation in any assessment mandated by ESSA, the State or district.

The following are the Darlington School District policies regarding Student Assessment and Parent Opt-Out of Assessment:

ASSESSMENT POLICY #700.10 (f)

The assessment of student academic performance is critical to the Darlington Community School District. Standards-led education demands that assessment data be collected, analyzed, and interpreted from a variety of sources. Essential to a standards-based educational program is a balanced assessment system that includes formative, benchmark, and summative strategies that measures student progress and performance of the standards and priority outcomes. The philosophy of the Board is for all students to achieve optimal learning based on high expectations and considerations of their abilities and needs. Administrators and faculty recognize that students have diverse capabilities, interests, and individual patterns of growth and learning. Therefore, the Darlington Community School District believes it is important to have as much accurate knowledge of each student as is possible through Core Values, Standardized Assessments, 4K-12 Priority Outcomes and Standards, Classroom Assessments, and Accountability Measures. This approach exemplifies a balanced, comprehensive, and instructionally relevant assessment system that values our relationship with all students. This multi-tiered system provides meaningful information about student progress, student performance, and instructional effectiveness. Additionally, such a system promotes higher achievement levels and prepares students to be life-long learners and compassionate, contributing members of society.

Adopted: October 18, 2010

## **Excellence in Education**

## PARENT OPT-OUT OF ASSESSMENT

The Board shall excuse any student from the State examination at any grade whether the test administered is the one developed by the Department of Public Instruction or the District's own test developed and approved by the DPI and the U.S. Department of Education. To opt out of these examinations, the student's parents must submit a statement in writing to the Building Principal stating that the parent is opting out of the examination(s).

Adopted: October 11, 2023

Sincerely,

Cale Jackson
Darlington Community School District