

PISGAH HIGH SCHOOL

BEARS

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your receipt of this letter is to make you aware that as a result of new curriculum standards being taught for the first time in North Carolina this year, new End-of-Course Assessments in Algebra I, English II and Biology will be given for the first time in the fall of 2012.

The first priority when implementing new assessments is to ensure the results of the test scores are valid and reliable. When new assessments are administered for the first time, student scores are delayed while the N.C. Department of Public Instruction processes the test data and completes all of the necessary analysis. Due to this process, in 2012-13 Students will not receive their test scores at the completion of testing.

NCDPI will provide school systems in late January with a 0-100 score for Algebra I, English II and Biology EOC tests. Schools will use this score as part of the calculation of the final grade for these courses.

Students will receive an "incomplete" until the 0-100 score is available. Once available, schools will use this score to calculate final grades. Once the final grade for these courses is calculated, a new report card will be printed and given to students.

Please note that for English II, the test scores may be delayed even further because of hand scoring of some written response questions.

The North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) will allow students affected by delayed EOC scores to participate in athletics if they meet all other eligibility requirements. Students will be eligible if the EOC course (i.e., English II, Biology, or Algebra I/Integrated I) alone makes the difference. Once the 0-100 score is available, schools will use it to calculate the final grade for the course. By the day after the scores are determined, each NCHSAA member school will be required to take action on the affected students' eligibility.

We appreciate your understanding as we move into this next generation of assessment and work toward providing the most accurate information possible concerning student performance on EOC tests. If you have questions or concerns about the delay of EOC scores or the assignment of grades, please contact Greg Bailey at <u>gbailey@haywood.k12.nc.us</u>, or 646-3440.

Sincerely,