

# Germantown School District

GERMANTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
N104W13840 DONGES BAY ROAD  
GERMANTOWN, WI 53022-4499  
262-253-3900

March, 2016

Dear Families,

The biennial budget (2015 Wisconsin Act 55) required the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to develop a new state assessment for students in grades 3-8 and grade 10 in the 2015-16 school year. This assessment, now called the Wisconsin Forward Exam, will replace the Badger Exam administered last year.

The Wisconsin Forward Exam will be administered in Spring, 2016. The testing window will run from March 28 through May 20. Exact testing days for each grade level have not yet been determined but will be communicated through school newsletters. The test will be administered in English Language Arts and mathematics in grades 3 through 8, in science in grades 4 and 8, and in social studies in 4, 8, and 10. The Wisconsin Forward Exam will not be computer-adaptive, meaning that every student will receive the same set of questions for each subject area. While the test is untimed, the approximate testing times are as follows:

Grades 3, 5, 6 and 7:	4.5 hours
Grades 4 and 8:	7.5 hours
Grade 10:	1.5 hours

A parent or guardian can request an opt-out for his/her student for the Wisconsin Forward Exam. A parent must submit a written request for student opt-out to the building principal. All students opting out of the testing will be documented as "not tested" for the school and district reporting.

Scott Oftedahl, Personalized Learning Coordinator, has designed a website with resources for the Forward Exam. Please visit the Germantown School District website ([germantownschoools.org](http://germantownschoools.org)). Under the Parents tab at the top of the screen, click on the "Wisconsin 2016 Forward Exam Information" link. Individual school testing schedules will be posted on this website when they available.

Please contact me at 262.253.3906 or [bobrien@germantown.k12.wi.us](mailto:bobrien@germantown.k12.wi.us) should you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding the Wisconsin Forward Exam. The district will continue to communicate additional information about the exam as soon as it is made available by DPI.

Sincerely,

*Brenda O'Brien*

Brenda O'Brien  
Director of Teaching and Learning