



**BAYONNE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
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Dear Parents / Guardians,

I am writing to provide you information about the 2021 Start Strong Individual Student Reports (ISRs), which are enclosed and are also available in the New Jersey Parent Portal at [nj-results.pearsonaccessnext.com](http://nj-results.pearsonaccessnext.com).

There is one report for each content area in which your child tested. To view the ISRs in the parent portal, parents must create an account. If you do not already have one, then use the claim code provided on the ISR.

The ISRs are meant to give you a sense of your child's understanding in the tested content areas. On the first page, you will see that your child was assigned a "support level" indicating how much support they may need this school year. The second page includes a description of the major concepts that were assessed and the number of points your child earned for each one. You can use this ISR as a starting point for discussions with your child and teacher(s). For instance, you may want to ask, "What additional supports are available to help my child during the school day and beyond regular school hours?" or "How will I know if my child is improving?"

The Start Strong assessments were designed to inform instruction by providing educators—as well as parents—with an early indication of the level of support students may need as they enter a new school year. The Start Strong assessments were given in the fall and assess students on a subset of priority standards from the prior school year. For instance, a fifth grade Start Strong mathematics test focused on fourth grade New Jersey Student Learning Standards. These tests were created to help educators and families better understand, at the beginning of the school year, what educational supports students may need.

The fall Start Strong tests were given instead of spring NJSLA tests **only for this year (2021)** as part of the approved flexibilities offered by the U.S Department of Education. The spring NJSLA schedule will resume for the 2021-22 school year.

Thank you for all you have done over the past year and a half in an evolving academic environment. Your support and encouragement inspire us to continue to make sure our students have the best opportunities to learn, engage, and succeed. We are proud to partner with you in your child's educational journey.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or school counselor with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Mr. Dennis C. Degnan  
Assistant Superintendent of  
Curriculum & Instruction, Federal & State Programs