



**BAYONNE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
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Wachera Ragland-Brown, Ed.D.  
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January 10, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to provide you with information about the 2022 Start Strong Individual Student Reports (ISRs), which are enclosed and are also available in the NJ Parent Portal at <http://nj-results.pearsonaccessnext.com>.

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

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 assessed 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 to succeed in the current school year.

Understanding the areas of need and opportunity to deliver instruction and support for learning acceleration remains paramount at the New Jersey Department of Education. Pursuant to Commissioner's regulatory authority, local education agencies (LEAs) are required to administer the Start Strong as part of the overall Statewide assessment system.

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 in the content area during 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 your child's 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?"

If you have further questions, please reach out to your child's school counselor and/or building administrator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wachera Ragland-Brown".

Wachera Ragland-Brown, Ed.D.  
Chief Academic Officer