

December 2018

Dear Tuckahoe Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

This December, eighth grade students will participate in a writing assessment which will consist of two components – Writing Prompt and Multiple-Choice. The Writing Prompt will become a part of the evaluation criteria for our HCPS High School Specialty Centers should your student apply for one of these programs. The score on the multiple choice will determine areas of instructional focus for your student in preparation for the Standards of Learning Writing test, which will be administered this spring.

On Thursday, December 6 and Friday, December 7, your child will participate in the HCPS Writing Prompt Assessment during English class. The HCPS Writing Prompt is an assessment tool that must be completed by any eighth grade student, regardless of whether they plan to apply to a Specialty Center. Please remind your child to bring his/her laptop, fully charged, to school on Wednesday or Thursday. The writing prompt will not count as a grade for English class; these essays are submitted electronically for HCPS Specialty Center Selection Committees.

Eighth grade students will also complete a Writing Multiple Choice Benchmark during an English class between December 11 and December 18. Your child's English teacher will provide the specific date for this assessment. The Writing Multiple Choice Benchmark will not be evaluated as part of the Specialty Center Application process, but it will count as a quiz grade for each student's English class. Please remind your child to bring his/her laptop, fully charged, with them to school the week of December 11-18.

For frequent updates about Specialty Center programs and access to the online application, please visit the following website: [henricoschools.us/specialty-centers](http://henricoschools.us/specialty-centers).

Your child's school counselor is available to provide more information about the specialty center application process. Our School Coordinator of Assessment and Remediation (Kayleigh Deihr, [kldeihr@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:kldeihr@henrico.k12.va.us)) or your child's English teacher can answer questions about the Writing Multiple Choice Benchmark.

Sincerely,



Ann Greene.  
Principal