



## Warhill High School

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**Jeffrey Carroll, Ph.D.** Principal  
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January 2, 2019

Dear Families,

Recently, the Virginia Department of Education made changes to SOL test requirements that have the potential to impact your child. Specifically, the changes reduce the number of required SOL tests for students for graduation.

Students who are enrolled in courses that have SOL end-of-course tests must take the tests unless they have already earned the number of verified credits in that content area needed for graduation. This will affect only a small number of students this school year. To assist your child in planning, teachers will notify students impacted by this change individually.

Relatedly, the change to SOL testing will also impact final exams and exam exemptions. Previously, students who passed any SOL test earned an exam exemption for that course. However, according to the new VDOE requirements, some students will not be eligible to take the SOL. Therefore, WJCC will provide an alternative assessment that will allow students to demonstrate mastery of content and earn an exam exemption.

The alternate assessment may include a project, paper, presentation, etc. Performance on the alternate assessment will not count as a grade. The student may choose to take the alternative assessment to earn the exam exemption OR they may choose to sit for the final exam. All students will have the choice to take the final exam in addition to the SOL test or the alternative assessment. For some students, this is an opportunity to improve their final grade for the course.

We are pleased that the State is taking steps to minimize required testing and to support schools in designing appropriate alternatives to standardized tests. We will continue to update you if additional changes are made. In the meantime, we appreciate your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Carroll, Ph.D.  
Principal