PARCC SY16:
ISBE Student Refusal Policy
Principal Communication

Specific information shared in these slides were pulled from the February 22\textsuperscript{nd} email from the CPS Department of Communications with attachments from the office of Chief Education Officer, Janice K. Jackson.

These documents are currently posted to the PARCC Principal/School Leader page on Knowledge Center. Please click the document links below to access them directly.

- PARCC Principal Letter
- PARCC Facts
**Policy Requirements**

**Participation Requirements:**

- ISBE required that all districts and schools test at least 95% of eligible students to ensure that test results for individual schools or the district are representative.

- Additionally, ISBE **does not recognize** a parent’s right to **opt a child out** of required State student assessments.

**Repercussions:**

- Failure to meet the 95% threshold may put schools at CPS **at risk for financial sanctions and/or other punitive actions by ISBE**.

- U.S. DoE reiterated states are expected to enforce the participation requirement by exercising their ability to withhold, or place conditions on, Title I funding and/or taking other actions against districts or schools that do not meet the 95% participation threshold.
Required Steps

To meet these requirements all students should be provided the opportunity to participate in each unit of the test.

Per ISBE’s SY2014-15 guidance, this means that:

- Students must be presented a testing ticket (online testers) or a test booklet (paper testers) for each unit of the tested subject.

- Students who refuse to participate may:
  - be provided a silent, self-guided activity in the classroom (in a content area other than what is being assessed).
  - be removed to another supervised location to engage in quiet self-directed activities.

- Schools must provide a Not Tested Reason (NTR) for any student who refuses to participate in ALL units of a subject. Further info on this process to come.
Resources

Principals, teachers, staff and school parents may have additional questions about PARCC. We recommend **holding a parent meeting in advance of testing to clear up misconceptions**. Next steps to prepare for those conversations include:

- Visiting the [CPS PARCC site](#): For info on PARCC test content, score reports and parent resources.
- Accessing the [Understanding PARCC for Parents](#) slides: Posted to the PARCC Principal/School Leader CPS KC page, this resource can help explain PARCC and its connection to Common Core.
- Visiting the [CPS Knowledge Center PARCC pages](#): Up to date PARCC info specific by PARCC role including PD slides, policy guidelines, timelines and critical Test Coordinator resources.
- Sharing with parents the [Great Kids PARCC Score Report Guide](#): Parent friendly guidance on PARCC score reports and next steps parents can take to support their children.