



**NAEP 2014 PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION LETTER**  
**Grade 8 civics, geography, science pilot, and U.S. history**  
**January 14, 2014**

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are writing to notify you that **School of the Future** has been selected and mandated to represent schools across the nation by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest nationally representative assessment of what students know and can do in various subject areas. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from state assessments because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

In our school, the NAEP assessment will be given on Wednesday, February 26. Your child will be selected to take a civics, geography, or U.S. history assessment, or a science pilot assessment. In addition to answering questions in one of these subjects, students will be asked some questions about themselves and their educational experience. These questions provide contextual information for the assessment, as well as information that may be related to students' learning. If you would like to view sample subject area and student questions, please visit <http://nationsreportcard.gov/parents.asp>.

It will take about 90 minutes for most students to participate in the assessment. Students with extended time per IEPs or 504s will receive these modifications for the NAEP. **Students selected for the science hands-on tasks pilot will have a few more minutes added to their session.** The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347), and the information provided will be used for statistical purposes only. Your child's grades will not be affected. Your child may be excused from participation for any reason, is not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question. While NAEP is voluntary, we depend on student participation to provide an accurate measure of student achievement that will inform improvements in education. Your child will represent many other students, so participation is very important. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by **January 25, 2014**.

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP. We do, however, ask parents to encourage their children to do their best and get plenty of rest the night before the assessment. A brochure that explains what participation in NAEP means for you and your child is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>. Should you have questions, please contact Katherine Messer, our testing coordinator, at [212.475.8086, ext. 3031](tel:212.475.8086), or at [Kmesser@sof.edu](mailto:Kmesser@sof.edu).

We feel instructional time is always the priority, but we know that taking 90 minutes will help School of the Future's students to help us show what our nation's students know and can do.

Sincerely,

Stacy Goldstein  
Principal/Middle School Director  
School of the Future

[www.sof.edu](http://www.sof.edu)