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Office of Instructional Support and Development  
Room 875 EBA (518) 474-5915

**To:** Principals of Nonpublic Schools

**Date:** July 2008

**From:** Jean C. Stevens *Jean C. Stevens*

**Subject:** Update on Reporting Elementary/Middle-Level State Assessments in Science and Social Studies in 2008–09

Since we recognize that nonpublic schools' 2008-09 budgets have been established, with no funds budgeted for additional testing costs, for the 2008–09 school year *only*, the New York State Education Department will allow nonpublic schools planning to administer the Grade 4 Elementary-Level Science Test, the Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Science Test, or the Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test to report aggregated school-level results directly to the Department using the attached report form. Nonpublic schools that have contracted with a RIC/Big 5 to report results for these assessments in the Student Information Repository System (SIRS) may continue to do so.

In 2008–09, the Department will continue to provide nonpublic schools with answer documents and scanning services for the Grade 5 Elementary-Level Social Studies Test and the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT). Answer documents for these assessments will be sent to nonpublic schools that order tests from the Office of State Assessment (OSA). The Department will continue to provide summary forms for nonpublic schools to report scores on State assessments at the secondary level.

Beginning in the 2009–10 school year, all nonpublic schools planning to administer the Grade 4 Elementary-Level Science Test, the Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Science Test, the Grade 5 Elementary-Level Social Studies Test, or the Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test are required to contract with a RIC/Big 5 to participate in SIRS. The RIC/Big 5 will provide answer documents and scanning services as well as technical assistance in data collection and storage for participating nonpublic schools. A list of RIC contacts may be found at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/nysstudents/Documentation/contacts.html> .

Information on mandated services aid can be found at [www.emsc.nysed.gov/nonpub/](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/nonpub/) . The Department will contact you regarding answer documents and scanning services for NYSESLAT in future years.

If you have questions about the services to be provided to nonpublic schools, contact Information and Reporting Services at (518) 474-7965.

cc: Nonpublic School Superintendents  
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