

# DEMAREST MIDDLE SCHOOL

## DEMAREST PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

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568 PIERMONT ROAD  
DEMAREST, NJ 07627  
201-768-6060

MR. JONATHON REGAN  
PRINCIPAL

November 2, 2018

Parents and Guardians,

Your son/daughter recently took part in the Academic Merit Assessment on the afternoon of October 23<sup>rd</sup> to assess critical thinking, reading and writing skills. Technical issues occurred during the assessment that were outside the control of school personnel, which may have negatively skewed the results. As such, DMS eighth graders will retake this assessment on the morning of Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

As a reminder, this assessment will be double blind scored by Northern Valley Demarest High School English and Social Studies staff who have received training through a company called Academic Merit. The intent of this process is to enhance alignment of writing practices across the continuum of education. The assessment will be given again during high school to track each student's growth. The results of this assessment will also be used as a data point for high school placement. The assessment is being administered to all eighth grade students attending Northern Valley public schools. The assessment will generate useful data for the eighth grade and high school teachers to use in classroom instruction.

Please feel free to reach out to me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*Jonathon Regan*

Principal