

S.S. Dixon Intermediate School

5540 Education Drive

Pace, Florida 32571

Phone 850-995-3650

Fax 850-995-3655

*Linda Gooch
Principal*



*Candace Hendricks
Assistant Principal*

September 4, 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! We are excited to have your student on board and are looking forward to a year of exciting instruction. As with any new school year, changes take place over the summer. One such change is the addition of Renaissance Star as one of two district-wide benchmark screeners.

This school year Renaissance Star will be utilized to measure progress in the subject areas of Reading and Math. The Unify platform will continue to be utilized to measure progress in the subject areas of Science and Social Studies.

STAR Assessments for early literacy, math, and reading are short tests that provide teachers with learning data. STAR Assessments are computer adaptive, which means they adjust to each answer your child provides. This helps teachers get the best data to help your child in the shortest amount of testing time (about one-third of the time other tests take). Teachers analyze the data they get from STAR Assessments to learn what students already know and what they are ready to learn next, to monitor student growth, and to determine which students may need additional help. STAR Assessments are heavily researched and scientifically proven to help teachers guide each student on his or her unique path to mastery.

By pinpointing exactly what your child knows, teachers can personalize your child's practice to keep them growing. Plus, short test times ensure your child spends more time learning and less time testing.

The best way to help your child with Star Assessments is to help them understand why they are taking the test: so their teacher knows exactly how to help them learn! For anxious children, it may be important to tell them that they cannot fail a STAR assessment—if they do their best, the data generated from the test will help their teacher teach them more great things! Remember, your child's teacher is the best source of additional information about your child's progress with STAR Assessments.

Should you have any questions concerning district-wide benchmark screeners, please feel free to contact the school.

Yours in education,
Linda Gooch
Principal

Home of the Junior Patriots