

Standards of Learning (SOL) – Online Testing

For the past several years, most middle schools and high schools in Virginia have administered the Standards of Learning (SOL) assessments online, rather than as paper-and-pencil tests. Online testing is now the preferred method to administer SOL assessments.

In Loudoun County Public Schools, SOL testing will occur from May 9th through June 10th, with each school setting their own schedule within that period.

During May/June 2011, all grade 6-8 students in Loudoun County Public Schools will be administered their SOL assessments as online tests, unless it would be in the student's best interest to instead take paper-and-pencil tests.

The Virginia Department of Education has conducted numerous studies to ensure that the online tests are comparable to paper-and-pencil tests. That is, students would earn approximately the same score, regardless of whether they took the test on a computer or with paper-and-pencil. Also, students will have a number of different training experiences prior to actually taking an SOL test online. However, for students or parents who are uncomfortable with online SOL testing, a paper-and-pencil version of the tests will be made available.

If you would like more information about online SOL testing, you can download to your home computer a "tutorial." This is about a 10 minute "video," with either accompanying sound or on-screen text, that provides an overview of online SOL testing in a variety of different subjects. From the Loudoun County Public Schools' Internet Home Page (www.lcps.org), follow the path:

Quick Links > Testing > SOL Online Testing

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Pingley at 703-957-4340.