

When break ends, tests begin

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It may not be your imagination if some Georgia students today than is usual for a Friday. Today is the last day of school before spring break. Gwinnett County public schools and Buford City Schools will be closed next week. Kids, enjoy this break, because you're going to face a busy month after you return April 9.

On April 10 and 11, fourth- and seventh-graders in Gwinnett's public schools will take Gateway tests, a series of exams created by the school system to assess how well students have mastered the district's learning standards. Tenth-graders will take the High School Gateway a few days later, on April 16 and 18.

From April 18 through April 26, Gwinnett students will take the Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Test. Buford students begin taking the exam April 17.

The CRCT measures whether students grasp the state learning standards. Students in grades 3, 5 and 8 must pass some portions of the test to move on to the next grade level. The exam also determines whether schools made the academic goals required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Schools that fail to meet goals face sanctions.

But don't worry too much, kids. Summer vacation will start about seven weeks after spring break ends.

1. What does the acronym CRCT for? What does it measure or determine?
2. Beyond the inaccurate response, *"to save his job"* or *"make himself look good"*, what were Mr. Daughtry's intentions in the following: 1) CRCT strengths and weaknesses essay, 2) Seventh grade CRCT results essay, 3) completion of ALL six domains, 4) Weakness inventory, 5) CRCT Practice Test, and 6) CRCT Practice Test Results/Data Analysis with Parent Signature.
3. Explain the significance of CRCT results and students in grades 3, 5, and 8.
4. In paragraph form, compare and contrast your current comfort level on the Thursday, April 19, 2007 mathematics CRCT with that of previous years?
5. In paragraph form, what pros and cons exists with excusing students from educational instruction just prior to the administration of the CRCT?
6. In paragraph form, explain at least five legitimate and educational purposes behind The Daughtry Times.