Opt-outs compel district to add day

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Students in grades 3-8 in Spencerport thought they were getting off scotfree when their parents opted them out of three days of state testing.

Instead, it’s out of the frying pan, into the fire.

After 50 percent of its students refused the English tests last week, the district realized it wouldn’t need to dedicate as much time to test-grading as originally planned. That means a scheduled day off for K-8 students on Monday will now be a regular school day.

"With fewer assessments taken, we anticipate that we can accomplish scoring without the loss of an instructional day for students," the district wrote in a post on its website. "Therefore, we are reinstating April 27 as a normal full-day session."

Parents will receive a letter in the mail explaining the change.

Spencerport was one of several districts in Monroe County with high opt-out numbers last week. No other district announced a similar schedule change, though. Most will use the day for professional development.

The three-day state math test will be given starting Wednesday; similarly high refusal numbers are expected for it.

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