

Dear Parent/Guardian:

January 27, 2023

Every year, California students take several statewide tests. When combined with other measures such as grades, class work, and teacher observations, these tests give families and teachers a more complete picture of their child's learning. You can use the results to identify where your child is doing well and where they might need more support.

Your child may be taking one or more of the following California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), and Physical Fitness Test assessments. For students who receive instruction remotely, Smarter Balanced and California Science Tests may be administered remotely, contact your student's teacher for more information.

Student video and audio monitoring is required during remote testing.

CAASPP: Smarter Balanced Assessments for English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and Math: February 21 – May 19, 2023. Make-up testing continues thru June 1, 2023

- **Who takes these tests?** Students in grades 3–8 and grade 11.
- **What is the test format?** The Smarter Balanced assessments are computer-based.
- **Which standards are tested?** The California Common Core State Standards.

CAASPP: California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for ELA and Math: February 21 – May 19, 2023. Make-up testing continues thru June 1, 2023

- **Who takes these tests?** Students in grades 3–8 and grade 11 whose individualized education program (IEP) identifies the use of alternate assessments.
- **What is the test format?** The CAAs for ELA and math are computer-based tests that are administered one-on-one by a test examiner who is familiar with the student.
- **Which standards are tested?** The California Common Core State Standards through the Core Content Connectors.

CAASPP: California Science Test (CAST): February 21 – May 19, 2023. Make-up testing continues thru June 1, 2023

- **Who takes the test?** Students take the CAST in grades 5 and 8 and once in high school (Grade 11 or 12).
- **What is the test format?** The CAST is computer-based.
- **Which standards are tested?** The California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS).

CAASPP: California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science: November 28, 2022 – May 19, 2023. Make-up testing continues thru June 1, 2023

- **Who takes the test?** Students whose IEP identifies the use of an alternate assessment take the CAA for Science in grades 5 and 8 and once in high school.
- **What is the test format?** The CAA for Science is a series of four performance tasks that can be administered throughout the year as the content is taught.
- **Which standards are tested?** Alternate achievement standards derived from the CA NGSS.

Physical Fitness Test: February 6- April, 13 2023 with make-up testing thru June 1, 2023

- **Who takes the test?** Students in grades 5, 7, and 9 will take the FITNESSGRAM[®], which is the test used in California.
- **What is the test format?** The test consists of five performance components: aerobic capacity, abdominal strength, trunk strength, upper body strength, and flexibility.
- **Which standards are tested?** The Healthy Fitness Zones, which are established through the FITNESSGRAM[®].

For school specific testing days, please contact your student's teacher or school directly.

Pursuant to California Education Code Section 60615, parents/guardians may annually submit to the school a written request to excuse their child from any or all of the CAASPP assessments. This exemption does not exist for the Physical Fitness Test. To excuse students from testing, a formal letter signed by the student's parent/guardian must be submitted to their school of attendance or Barstow Unified District Instructional Support Services department for each student. The letter must contain the following information: date of letter, year of exemption, child's name, grade level, list of all tests & subjects they are to be exempt from participating in and the parent/guardians name and signature. If you do choose to excuse your student from testing, please submit letters as soon as possible.

For more information on California State Testing Programs visit <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/>

Sincerely,

Jamie Fisher

Director- Instructional Support Services