

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Parent and Guardian Notification

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) is our state's academic testing program. CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress and ensure that all students graduate from high school ready for college and career.

During the spring of 2024, RUSD students will participate in the following tests:

Smarter Balanced assessments for English language arts and mathematics in grades three through eight, and grade eleven. The Smarter Balanced assessments utilize computer-adaptive tests and performance tasks that allow students to analytical writing and critical thinking skills in English language arts and mathematics. In grade eleven, results from the ELA and mathematics assessments can be used as an indicator of college readiness.

California Science Test (CAST), and the California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science Test for all students in grades five, eight, and once to each student while that student is in high school. The CAST is an online test based on the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS). California's Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS) call for students to think and work like scientists and engineers-asking questions and learning through hands-on investigation and discovery. The CAST measures students' achievement of these standards through the application of their knowledge and skills of the Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts. **The CAA for Science test** is based on alternate achievement standards derived from the CA NGSS. Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, as designated in their IEP, are eligible to take the CAA for Science. The CAA for Science consists of three embedded performance tasks based on alternate achievement standards derived from the CA NGSS.

California Alternate Assessments (CAA) for English–language arts and mathematics in grades three through eight, and grade eleven. The content of the CAA is based on alternate achievement standards derived from the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Students who have an IEP that designates the use of an alternate assessment are eligible to take the CAAs in ELA and mathematics. The goal of the CAA is to ensure that students with the most significant cognitive disabilities attain increasingly higher achievement levels.

For eleventh graders, these assessments will have a direct impact on the California State University's (CSU's) Early Assessment Program (EAP). The CSU and participating California community colleges will use student results from the state assessments as a student's EAP

status in English and mathematics to determine if students are “ready” to be placed in credit-bearing coursework.

To learn more about the types of computer-based test questions, you and your child can view the practice and training tests online at the CAASPP Online Practice and Training Test Portal webpage at www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html. Please make sure to select the “Student Interface Practice and Training Tests” button to access the tests. In addition, the California Science Test (CAST) will be administered in grades 5, 8, and 12 in the spring of 2004.

Students will receive individual score reports following spring 2024 testing. Student score reports for 2022-2023 school year are made available to parents/guardians through the Aeries Parent Portal for viewing and download. You will be notified by email when the student reports are made available for the 2022-2023 state assessments. Please contact your student’s school site front office for any assistance with your Aeries Parent Portal account or to create one.

According to California Education Code and Title 5 regulations, parents have the right to opt their student out of testing. Although we do not recommend opting students out of testing, parents wishing to opt their student(s) out of testing must annually submit this request, in handwriting, to the school principal.

For additional parent information about the CAASPP assessment system, please visit the following web address at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp, or feel free to contact your student’s school administrator.