

2023-24 Annual Parent/Guardian Notification of State Testing

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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), English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC), and Physical Fitness Test assessments.

English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)

- **Who takes the test?** Students who are classified as English learner students will take the Summative ELPAC every year until they are reclassified as proficient in English.
- **What is the test format?** The Summative ELPAC is computer-based.
- **Which standards are tested?** 2012 CA English Language Development Standards.
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Alternate ELPAC

- **Who takes the test?** Students whose IEP identifies the use of an alternate assessment and who have a home language survey that lists a language other than English. Students who are classified as English learner students will take the Alternate Summative ELPAC every year until they are reclassified as proficient in English.
- **What is the test format?** The Alternate Summative ELPAC is computer-based.
- **Which standards are tested?** Alternate achievement standards derived from the 2012 California English Language Development Standards.
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CAASPP: Smarter Balanced Assessments for English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and Math

- **Who takes these tests?** All 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.
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CAASPP: California Science Test (CAST)

- **Who takes the test?** All Students in grades 5, 8 and *once* in high school, in grade 11 or 12.
- **What is the test format?** The CAST is computer-based.
- **Which standards are tested?** The California Next Generation Science Standards
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CAASPP: California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for ELA and Math

- **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 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.
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CAASPP: California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science

- **Who takes the test?** Students whose IEP identifies the use of an alternate assessment take the CAA for Science in grades 5, 8 and once in high school, either in grade 11 or 12.
- **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 (PFT)

- **Who takes the test?** Students in grades 5, 7, and 9.
- **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 PFT can be given to students over multiple days. Students will participate in each of the five fitness areas and will be provided with their individual results upon completion of the PFT

You are an important part of your child's education. We thank you for your support in making sure your students are at school during your sites testing windows, arrive on time and well rested so they may do their best! Remember these tests help formulate the curriculum for years to come, so good testing equals good results!

You will receive your child's results at or before the beginning of the next school year. The results will identify where your child is doing well or needs more help, so you can better support their learning at home and teachers can better support their learning in the classroom.

To learn more about ELPAC or CAASPP assessments, please visit the ELPAC Starting Smarter website at <https://elpac.startingsmarter.org/> or the CAASPP Starting Smarter website at <https://ca.startingsmarter.org/> and/or review the CDE Parent Guides to Understanding web page at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp.

We thank you for your support in ensuring your students are at school during your site's testing windows, arrive on time and well rested so they may do their best! Remember these tests help formulate the curriculum for years to come, so good testing equals good results!

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 ELPAC or Physical Fitness Test.

Every school has their own schedule. If you have questions, please contact your school Principal for assistance.