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2023 - 2024 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress English, Math, and Science Parent and Guardian Notification Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian:

There are many ways to measure your child's learning. Your child's teacher uses report card grades, classroom work, teacher observations, and end-of-year statewide test results to get a complete picture of your child's learning. Each year, students participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). Your child will take the following tests, depending on their grade level or instructional program:

Smarter Balanced (SBAC) end-of-year state tests for English language arts and math, required in grades 3–8

California Science Test (CAST), a required test in grades 5 and 8 California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for English language arts, math, and science required per a student IEP instead of SBAC for some students in grades 3-8

This year, Westside Union School District will give the end-of-year statewide tests *in-person*. These tests will take place during the window of April 8 – May 31, 2024. Contact your child's teacher for specific testing dates for your child's class.

You are an important part of your child's education. To make sure your child feels comfortable taking tests, you can:

Explain to your child that these tests are tools to help them learn, and they should not be anxious or scared.

Explore the practice tests with your child at <a href="mailto:caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html">caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html</a> so they can become familiar with the platform and setup of the tests.

Remind your child that you and their teacher want them to try their best and are there to help, every step of the way.

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 these tests go to the Starting Smarter web page at <u>ca.startingsmarter.org/</u>, or review the Parent Guides to Understanding at <u>cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp.</u>

If you have questions about your child taking end-of-year statewide tests, please contact your school principal or Laura Duran at 661-722-0716 ext. 72808 and/or I.duran@westside.k12.ca.us

Sincerely,

Laura Duran

WUSD Director of Assessment, Educational Services