



**District Office**

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**Superintendent**

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February 3, 2025

Dear DVUSD Parents and Guardians,

As a public school system, our academic program is measured each year by student performance on state achievement assessments. The data these assessments provide on student progress is important as we gauge student learning and develop plans for supporting student growth.

Students in grades 3-8 will take the Arizona Academic Standards Assessment (AASA) in writing, reading, and mathematics. Additionally, there is an oral reading fluency component to the 3rd grade reading portion of the test in which students will be recorded reading 3 short passages. The oral reading fluency component will be factored into the reading scores of 3rd grade students. Schools will administer the AASA tests in April. Check your school's website and newsletters for specific testing schedules.

Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 will take the AzSCI assessment. The AzSCI assessment measures students' proficiency in the science standards. The testing window for AzSCI is March 24-April 11. Check your school's website for more information.

Students in 9th grade will take the ACT-Aspire assessment and 11th graders will take the American College Test (ACT). Both assessments have five sections (English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing).

On April 1st, students in 9th grade will take the ACT-Aspire assessment and 11th graders will take AzSCI assessment. Students in 10th and 12th grades will have an **asynchronous remote learning day** in which they will not report to the school campus but will instead log into Canvas for their day's assignments. Parents may meet with their child's IEP team to discuss the planned online instruction for their child. Asynchronous remote learning days do not apply to Aspire or Vista Peak schools.

On April 8th, students in the 11th grade will take the ACT assessment. Students in 9th, 10th and 12th grades will have an **asynchronous remote learning day** in which they will not report to the school campus but will instead log into Canvas for their day's assignments. Parents may meet with their child's IEP team to discuss the planned online instruction for their child. Asynchronous remote learning days do not apply to Aspire or Vista Peak schools.

Students will need to bring their school-issued chromebook and charging cord to school on the testing days. Students will also need to bring a pair of headphones or earphones (wired, not bluetooth) to use during testing. DVUSD will provide headphones for students unable to bring their own headphones/earphones.

High school 11th grade students who score Proficient or Highly Proficient on the AzSCI assessment may be eligible to raise their course grades in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and/or Environmental Science. Students may be eligible to enhance their course grades in their sophomore and junior ELA courses and/or Geometry and Algebra 3-4 courses for scoring Proficient or Highly Proficient on the ACT test. For more information on Grade Enhancement, go to [dvusd.org/GradeEnhancement](https://dvusd.org/GradeEnhancement).

On testing days, ensure your child eats a healthy breakfast, gets plenty of rest, and comes to school prepared and comfortable to take the test. Our teachers and students have been working very hard this year to increase students' knowledge and skills. If you have specific questions about the state assessments, please be sure to contact your school.

We are looking forward to learning more about each student's progress and growth. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in the pursuit of extraordinary educational opportunities for every child!

Sincerely,

Dr. Gayle Galligan  
Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment