



OKANOGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #105

Where the Past and the Present Create the Future



Dear Parents, Students, Teachers and Community,

During the months of April and May, students across the State of Washington will be participating in the Smarter Balanced Assessments. Historically, students tested in Okanogan impress our region with above average scores compared to their peers and we have great confidence that Okanogan students will build a tradition of academic success.

Smarter Balance testing will be challenging. It will require students to show, in detail, what they know and how they solve problems. Smarter Balance will assess students' ability to apply the skills they have learned. It is important and provides useful information to students, parents, teachers and administrators. While it should be taken seriously, the test need not be a stressful experience.

Please encourage your children to approach the test with a positive attitude and to do their best each day. During this testing schedule, please help your children to get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast. Make up testing due to absences is very difficult. For this reason, we ask that you avoid scheduling appointments and vacations during testing dates.

GRADE	English Language Arts	Math	Science
3	May 13 - 15	May 7 & 8	N/A
4	May 13 - 15	May 7 & 8	N/A
5	May 13 - 15	May 7 & 8	April 30
6	April 22 - 24	April 15 & 16	N/A
7	May 6 - 8	May 6 & 7	N/A
8	April 28 - 30	May 6 & 7	May 1
10	May 12 - 14	May 5 & 6	N/A
11			April 29 (<u>ALL</u> Juniors are required to participate)

Testing will begin at 8:15am daily. Most students take approximately 3 hours to test each day. By lunchtime, most students will be finished. If not, they will be excused to their regular lunchbreaks and finish testing in the afternoon.

Thank you in advance for supporting our staff and students during the testing season. We have worked very hard to streamline this process to make it a positive experience for everyone. We are proud of the hard work that we do every day and know that the tests only measure a small part of what we do here in Okanogan. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me anytime. Go Bulldogs!!

Sincerely,

Michelle Daling
State & Federal Programs Administrator
District Assessment Director
Okanogan School District
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