

Education Division

Assessment and Evaluation

Parent and Guardian CAASPP Notification Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP, is the state academic testing program. CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress on an annual basis and ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and careers.

This year, students will take the CAASPP tests ***in the spring*.** If you have any questions, please contact your school site to get information regarding your school’s testing schedule. CAASPP assessments include computer adaptive tests in English–language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics for students in grades 7–8 and 11 and paper-based tests in science for students in grades 8 and 10. Students who have a significant cognitive disability (as designated in their individualized education program) are eligible to take the California Alternate Assessment (CAA). The Spanish-based Test in Spanish (STS) for Reading/ Language Arts is given to Spanish-speaking English learners who have been cumulatively enrolled in a school twelve months or less in grades 7-11.

To learn about the types of questions on the computer-based test, you and your child can view the practice tests online at the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Test Web page <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.

Individual student score reports displaying CAASPP results from 2015-2016 will be sent home to parents. Only students, who were in the participation range and took a test last year, will receive a growth comparison score report which will include an overall score and a description of the student’s achievement level for ELA and mathematics. Score reports for students in grades 8 and 10 will include results of the Science test. Early Assessment Program (EAP) results will be included on the score reports for students in grade 11 and are designed to provide students, their families and high schools with early indicators of readiness for college-level English and mathematics. The EAP results are accepted by the California State University institutions and many participating California Community Colleges in lieu of a placement exam.

The purpose of our new statewide annual assessments has shifted from producing annual accountability reports to measuring students’ progress in meeting academic growth. The results help teachers and administrators, to improve teaching and learning throughout the academic school year in determining the impact of selected curriculum/programs and to inform instruction [Education Code 60602(a)].

If you would like more information on CAASPP, please visit the Parent/Student tab at the California Department of Education (CDE) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/> where there are several resources to help students and parents understand the grade expectations of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments. If you have any questions regarding your child’s participation, or would like to excuse your child from the test, please contact the school testing administrator. [Education Code 60615.]

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Stewart Henry, Ed.D.**

Anaheim Union High School District

Director, Assessment and Evaluation