



## William S. Hart Union High School District

March 1, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP is the state's new academic testing program. CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress on an annual basis and help ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and career. CAASPP assessments include computer adaptive tests in English–language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics for students in grades 3 – 8 and 11 and paper-based tests in science for students in grades 5, 8 and 10.

This year, Hart District students will take the CAASPP tests, during our District's testing window, sometime between March 2 – June 2 (Each school site has a shortened testing schedule within the testing window). To learn about the types of questions on the computer-based test, you and your child can interact with the practice test online at the CAASPP website. Go to [www.caaspp.org](http://www.caaspp.org), click on the "Practice and Training Test" link, and open the "Student Interface."

Following the spring 2016 CAASPP testing, individual student score reports displaying CAASPP results from 2015 and 2016 will be sent home to parents. Student score reports will include an overall score and a description of the student's achievement level for ELA and mathematics. Score reports for students in grades 5, 8 and 10 will include results of the Science test.

### **HIGH SCHOOL ONLY**

Early Assessment Program (EAP) results will be included on the score reports for students in grade 11. The EAP results provide grade 11 students with an early indicator of readiness for college-level course work in English and mathematics. The California State University (CSU) and participating California Community Colleges (CCC) will use student EAP results to assist in the student's placement for their college English and math classes.

With CAASPP, the purpose of statewide annual assessments shifted from producing annual accountability reports to assisting teachers, administrators, and pupils and their parents to improve teaching and learning throughout the school year. Results from the CAASPP assessments will be used, along with other available data, to determine the impact of selected curriculum/programs, and to make other instructional plans.

As the parent or guardian, you have the option of excusing your child from any part of the CAASPP. If you would like to excuse your child from the test, you must submit your request in writing to the school site prior to the start of testing. Testing schedules vary, per school, and are posted on the individual school websites. Please let the school know as soon as possible so we can make alternative arrangements for your student.

If you have any questions regarding CAASPP, please contact your school site's Test Coordinator.

If you would like more information on CAASPP, please visit the Parent/Student tab of the California Department of Education (CDE) Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tq/ca/>.