



Culver Park High School

4601 Elenda Street, CP Annex

Culver City, CA 90230

(310) 842-4200 ext. 3600

CAASPP System Assessments 2016-2017

Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments and California Science Test

April 14, 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian:

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) is the state academic testing program and is intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress and ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and career. CAASPP includes computer-adaptive tests in English Language Arts and Mathematics and takes about six hours to complete.

The CAASPP will also include a new pilot science test. Working with science teachers, California is developing the California Science Test (CAST) that emphasizes scientific thinking and reasoning. These new tests will be given to 12th graders. Although no scores will be assigned for these tests this year, your student's results will help shape the scoring and design of future assessments. As partners in your child's education, we invite you to take a look at some sample test questions available in the new CAST Training Test at <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.

This year, students in grades 11 and 12 will take the test sometime between April 10 and June 1, 2017. Students will take the test over a period of several sessions during this testing window. Students who are absent for portions of the test will make it up when they return during designated make-up sessions.

Students will take the test in Room 3 with Chromebook devices, except for some students with IEP/504 Plans that state otherwise. To learn more about these tests, please visit CDE's Test Score Guide Web site at <http://www.testscoreguide.org/ca>, which provides informative guides and test score descriptions as well as sample test items at different levels of difficulty. Additionally, to learn about the types of questions on the computer-based test, **you and your child can view the practice test online** at the California Department of Education (CDE) Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>.

What you can do to ensure your child is at his/her best:

- Students should be alert, rested and focused – but not too anxious.
- Early bedtime, a good breakfast and a calm morning help.
- Reassure students that there may be some questions they do not know – just try their best.
- Be sure your child is in school every day unless he or she is ill; please schedule medical and dental appointments, if needed, for the afternoon.

You will receive a report of your child's scores in the summer. **This test is ONE of multiple measures** used to see how students are learning. Other elements include classwork, classroom tests, and district-wide reading and math assessments. If you would like more information, please visit the Parent/Student tab of the CDE CAASPP Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/>. Should you have additional questions about your child's participation, or this year's testing schedule and procedures, please feel free to call our office. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Veronica Montes
Principal