



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Each spring, students in California participate in the statewide testing program, which is the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System. The tests in the CAASPP System provide information to teachers, parents/guardians, and students about students' progress and readiness for college and career. Students take the Smarter Balanced online tests for English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics. In grades five and eight, students are also tested in science.

This year, your child will take the following assessments for ELA and mathematics:

- Smarter Balanced tests for ELA and mathematics

For students in grades five and eight your child will be taking the following assessment for science:

- California Science Field Test for Science

Smarter Balanced Assessments

The Smarter Balanced online tests are based on the new California Content Standards for mathematics and ELA. Last year, parents were able to compare results across **three years** (2014–15, 2015–16, and 2016-17) and determine their children's progress in meeting California's rigorous academic standards. (Exception: Only one year of data will be reported for students in grades 3, and only two years for students in grade 4.)

The California Department of Education (CDE) has developed several resources to help students and parents understand the grade expectations of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments:

- The *Parent Guides to the Smarter Balanced Assessments* (in English and Spanish) are posted on the CDE's CAASPP Web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/sbacparentguides.asp>. Separate guides have been developed for each of the three grade spans tested: grades 3–5, grades 6–8, and grade 11. Each guide explains the grade-level expectations for students in ELA and mathematics and provides sample test items.
- The practice and training tests, which can be found on the CDE's Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>, can help parents and students experience the type of test items that students will encounter on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments. Answers to the practice test and scoring rubrics for the performance tests are posted on the Test Administrator (TA) Resources for the Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests Web page at <http://www.caaspp.org/ta-resources/practice-training.html>.

Assessments for Science for students in grades five and eight grade:

California has adopted new science standards and is currently developing assessments that are aligned with these standards. During the transition to new science assessments, students in grades five, eight, and twelve will take the California Science Pilot Test. The California Science Test (CAST) is an online test based on the California Next Generation Science Standards. All local educational agencies (LEAs) with eligible students in grades five and eight will administer a pilot CAST. The CAST pilot uses the current California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress test delivery system and will only be administered online. Students will not receive scores for the pilot test; however, student participation data will be collected and reported for accountability.

For information about the content, types of questions, and other targeted resources for the science tests, please see the CDE's CAASPP Science Assessment Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caasppscience.asp>.

If you would like more information about the CAASPP System, please visit the Parent/Student tab of the CDE's CAASPP Web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/sbacparentguides.asp>. Pursuant to California Education Code 60615, parents or guardians must provide a written request to school officials if they wish to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of the assessments. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation, please contact myself, Mrs. Spickler at ext. 4006 or email me at mary.spickler@sjcharter.com.

Below you will find the testing schedule for your child. Please make sure that students are here for the days they are testing and on time. A good nights sleep and a hearty breakfast is essential to make sure your child is at their best each day.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to meet your child’s educational needs.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mary Spickler
 Administrator, Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
 626.856.1693 ext. 4006
mary.spickler@sjcharter.com

April, 2018

9	10	11 5 th G. Science Pilot Test	12 5 th Gr. Science Pilot Test	13
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May, 2018

	1 8:15 – 10:15 ELA #1 (3 rd – 5 th)	2 8:15 – 10:15 ELA #2 (3 rd – 5 th)	3 8:15 – 10:15 ELA PT#1 (3 rd – 5 th)	4 8:15 – 10:15 ELA PT#2 (3 rd – 5 th)
7 Make Ups	8 9:00 – 10:30 Math #1 (3 rd – 5 th)	9 9:00 – 10:30 Math #2 (3 rd – 5 th)	10 9:00 – 10:30 Math PT#1 (3 rd – 5 th)	11 9:00 – 10:30 Math PT#2 (3 rd – 5 th)