

January 4, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP, is the state academic testing program that includes the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. State testing requirements include computer adaptive tests in English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3 through 8, and paper-based tests for Science in grades 5 and 8. The CAASPP consists of an ELA Computer Adaptive Test, Classroom Activity, and Performance Task plus a Math Computer Adaptive Test, Classroom Activity and Performance Task.

The testing windows are as follows (Students should not be absent.):

- SBAC ELA & Math: April 11<sup>th</sup> – May 6<sup>th</sup>
- Science Paper-based Test: April 18<sup>th</sup> – April 27<sup>th</sup>

Our students are familiar with the general format of the SBAC tests. However, the SBAC tests are very different from a paper-based test, so we are asking for your assistance to help prepare our students, so that they feel comfortable with the new test format.

Please have your child start practicing this test at home. Please follow the steps outlined below. If you have any issues, please contact your child's classroom teacher or the Assistant Principal.

Step 1: Open an Internet browser and input this URL- <https://practice.smarterbalanced.org/student/>

Step 2: Click "Sign In" (As Guest- no numeration is needed to access the practice test)

Step 3: Select Grade and "Yes"

Step 4: Select one of the six tests (3 ELA and 3 Math). Students should practice each of the tests prior the taking the real test.

Step 5: On the Choose Settings page, items are already checked, so click the "Select" button at the bottom of the page

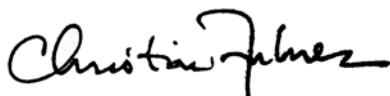
Step 6: The next page will ask for confirmation of identity- Is This Your Test?- Select, "Yes, Start my Test"

Our teachers have been teaching the Common Core standards, and integrating computer adapted assessments and keyboarding into our programs. You can help your child become more comfortable with keyboarding by accessing typing programs on our school website under the Academics tab. Scroll to the Websites for Learning page to access the keyboarding programs.

Following the spring CAASPP 2016 testing, students will receive individual score reports in English Language Arts and Mathematics. We anticipate that student score reports will be sent home to parents over the summer and will include an overall score, a description of the student's achievement level for English Language Arts and Mathematics, plus other information. Score reports for science will be sent home in June.

Thank you for your support of your child. Please ensure that your child will be present at school during the testing windows.

Sincerely,



Principal