

2021-22 Parent and Guardian CAASPP Notification Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Each spring, students in grades 3-8 and 11-12 participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) to provide information about their skills in English-language arts/literacy (ELA), mathematics, and science. These assessments reflect California's rigorous academic standards and allow students to demonstrate analytical writing and critical thinking skills as well as their knowledge of facts. CAASPP assessments provide one piece of information about student progress and should always be interpreted as one of multiple measures of a student's skills.

Test Overview

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Assessments (SBAC) - Grades 3-8 and 11

The Smarter Balanced computer-adaptive assessments are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics tests are administered in grades three through eight and grade eleven to measure whether students are on track to college and career readiness. In grade eleven, results from the ELA and mathematics assessments can be used as an indicator of college readiness.

California Science Tests (CAST) - Grades 5, 8, and 11-12

The computer-based CAST measures students' achievement of the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS) through the application of their knowledge and skills of the Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts. In 2022, the CAST will be administered to all students in grades five, eight, eleven, and twelve.

California Alternate Assessments (CAAs)

Only eligible students—students whose individualized education program (IEP) identifies the use of alternate assessments—may participate in the administration of the CAAs. The computer-based CAAs are administered one-on-one to students. Students in grades three through eight and grade eleven will take the CAA for ELA and mathematics. Test items developed for ELA and mathematics are aligned with the CCSS and are based on the Core Content Connectors. In 2022, students in grades five, eight, eleven and twelve will take the CAA for Science. The CAAs for Science are based on alternate achievement standards derived from the CA NGSS.

Testing Dates

More specifics will be sent out closer to the date of the test:

- 11th Grade CAST Science Test will be administered in Science classes the week of 4/11
- 11th Grade ELA SBAC Test will be administered in English classes the week of 5/16
- 11th Grade Math SBAC Test will be administered in Math classes the week of 5/16
- 12th Grade CAST Science Test will be administered in Social Science classes the week of 5/16

Helping Your Child Prepare for Testing

Here are some tips to help prepare your child for testing:

- Talk about the tests and encourage your child to try their best.
- Take a practice test with your child at <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.
- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast before testing.

Test Scores and Additional Information

Student scores will be available electronically through Parent Portal in the fall. For more information about the assessments, please visit the IUSD Statewide Testing website at iusd.org/statewide-testing or the CDE CAASPP web page at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/.

If you have any questions, please contact **Christy Haley** at christinehaley@iusd.org.