

Dear Parent or Guardian:

At the end of the last school year, students enrolled in our district in grade levels 7, 8, and 11, took a computer-based test called the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment. This year-end test is part of the California assessment system and is aligned with California's academic standards, which are the things we want students to know and be able to do. The goal of the standards is to have students graduate ready for college and a career.

These tests in English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics give educators across the state a way to see how well students can write clearly, think critically, and solve problems, which are some of the skills that are needed to succeed in college and a 21st century career.

Student score reports are scheduled to be mailed home this summer. Your child's report shows his or her scores for ELA and mathematics. It includes an overall score for each subject, and information about how well your student did in different skill areas. If your child took the test in past years, you will also see past scores so you can look at their progress over time.

If your child was given the pilot test of the new California Science Test based on California's Next Generation Science Standards, you will find information about the test on the back of the Student Score Report.

In our district, the test results are just one way to look at how well our students are doing. We use the results to find areas where students need help in the next school year. It is also important to know that the test results are not used to determine if a student moves to the next grade. If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress during the school year, you may contact the classroom teacher directly.

Additional Resources to find out more about your student's scores:

Test Score Guide Web site, <http://testscoreguide.org/ca> will give you information about the overall score, what level that score falls into, and the student's strengths and weaknesses.

Understanding the Student Score Report video will walk you through the different areas of the score report.

Parent Guides to the Summative Assessments will show sample items broken down by score level, so you can see what types of questions your student would get correct based on their score.

The video and Parent Guides are available in both English and Spanish on the California Department of Education's CAASPP Student Score Report Information Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caa/sppssrinfo.asp>

If your child is in grade 11, you will also find his or her Early Assessment Program (EAP) status reported on the back of the Student Score Report.

EAP uses student scores on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for ELA and mathematics to show a student's readiness for college-level coursework. The call out on the right shows how student scores and performance levels line up to the different EAP statuses.

Students will receive an EAP level for ELA and an EAP level for mathematics separately, depending on their scores in those sections.

EAP status is used by the California State University (CSU) and participating California Community Colleges (CCCs). Student scores will place them in one of four EAP levels, listed on the right.

For more information, please see the CSU's Early Assessment Program Web page at <http://www.calstate.edu/eap/> and the CSU Success Web page at <http://www.csusuccess.org>.

Sincerely,

Eric R. Dill
Superintendent

Grade 11 - EAP Score Levels

Ready—Students who score “Standard Exceeded” (Level 4) are considered *ready for college-level coursework** and are *exempt* from taking the CSU English Placement Test (EPT) and/or Entry Level Mathematics (ELM) exam. These students will be able to register in college degree-bearing courses upon entering the CSU or a participating CCC.

Conditionally Ready—Students who score “Standard Met” (Level 3) are considered *conditionally ready for college-level coursework** and are *exempt* from taking the EPT and/or ELM exam. However, they must take an approved English and/or mathematics course in twelfth grade and receive a grade of “C” or better. Students that do not meet the conditional requirement will need to participate in the CSU's Early Start Program, unless exemption was met through another pathway.

Not Yet Ready—Students who score “Standard Nearly Met” (Level 2) are considered *not yet ready for college-level coursework** and will need *additional preparation* in the twelfth grade. They will be required to take the EPT and/or ELM exam unless they meet the exemption criteria through another pathway.

Not Ready—Students who score “Standard Not Met” (Level 1) are considered *not ready for college-level coursework**. They will need *substantial improvement* to demonstrate knowledge and skills needed for success in entry-level credit-bearing college coursework after high school.

**In ELA and mathematics*