



Dear Parent/Guardian,

From **April 9 through June 1**, our school district will be participating in the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, which are part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System. Schedules at each school will vary and will be communicated by your principals.

Students in grades 3-8 and 11 will take the exams in English Language Arts and Mathematics, and students in grades 5, 8, 11, and 12 will take exams in Science.

Why is this test important?

This test was created with teacher input to...

- Measure how well your child has mastered the skills and content in mathematics and English language arts at his or her grade level
- Align with the instruction that takes place in the classroom everyday
- Match the learning goals of each grade level
- Assess critical thinking, analytical writing, and problem solving skills, which are needed for success in college and a 21st century career.

The test has **different kinds of questions**, including traditional multiple-choice questions as well as ones that require students to explain their answers, show their work, and compose essays.

What should I expect after my student takes the test?

As you may remember from last year's score report, each subject will be broken down into areas. The report shows how students are doing in each area and where they need help. Depending on the student's needs, teachers can use this information to provide targeted help to students to address their needs.

But remember, the results from this test aren't meant to tell the whole story. Your child's scores are meant to be one of several ways for you and your child's teacher to see how your

student is progressing in school. Test scores, along with student report cards and teacher's observations of your child's performance in the classroom, are used together to form a complete picture of your child's achievement.

Where can I learn more?

Practice test for your child's grade level can give you a quick feel for the nature of the tests. The practice tests are posted on the California Department of Education's Smarter Balanced Practice Tests Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>. To find out more details about the Smarter Balanced test, visit the California Department of Education's information page at: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/>

If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in statewide assessments, please contact your school site principal or District Assessment Director, Glen Webb at webbgl@mhusd.org. Thank you for all you do to partner with us in your child's education.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glen R. Webb".

Glen Webb, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Morgan Hill Unified School District.