



## Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

2560 SKYWAY DRIVE · SANTA MARIA CA 93455  
(805) 922-4573

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Each spring, students in grades three through eight and high school participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP).

**This year, your child will take the following test(s), depending on his or her grade level:**

- Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment in English language arts/literacy Grade eleven
- Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment in mathematics Grade eleven
- CAA for English language arts/literacy Grade eleven (Alt Test)  
CAA for Mathematics Grade eleven (Alt Test)
- California Science Test (CAST) Grade twelve  
CAA for Science Grade twelve (Alt Test)

The Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments are online tests that measure what your child knows and is able to do. The tests include many different types of questions that allow students to interact with the test questions. Results help identify gaps in knowledge or skills early on so your child can get the support he or she needs to be successful in school.

California is in the process of implementing the California Next Generation Science Standards. As part of that implementation, students in grades five, eight and high school will try out a new test called the California Science Test, or CAST.

To learn more about either the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments or the CAST, go to the California Department of Education Parent Guides to Understanding Web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp>.

You can look at sample test questions on the practice tests, which can be found on the CAASPP Web Portal at <http://www.caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.

For information on specific dates and times when your child will take the test in each subject, please contact:

**Righetti- Sal Reynoso 937.2051 x2705**  
**Pioneer- Paul Robinson 922.1305 x5707**  
**Santa Maria- Leslie Martinez 925.2567 3705**  
**Esther Prieto-Chavez- 937-6356 x1701**

Sincerely,

John Davis  
Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum

### How can I help my child get ready for the CAASPP?

You are an important part of your child's education. Some things you can do to help your child are:

- Talk about the test with your child. Make sure they are not scared or anxious.
- Tell your child that you and his or her teacher have high expectations and that you are both there to help, every step of the way.
- Take a practice test with your child.
- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast before testing.