



MARK WEST UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

305 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-1101
District Office (707) 524-2970
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Ronald Calloway, Superintendent
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Board of Trustees:
Sara Azat
Mike Edwards
Victor McKnight
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Brad Sherwood

Director of Student Services:
Rachel Valenzuela
Associate Superintendent of Business:
Regina Cuculich

February 22, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Each spring, students in grades 3-8 and high school participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP).

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

- Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment (SBAC) in English language arts/literacy
- Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment (SBAC) in mathematics

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 5, 8 and high school will try out a new test called the California Science Test, or CAST.

To learn more about either the SBAC 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 refer to your child's school website and newsletter.

Sincerely,

Rachel L. Valenzuela

Rachel Lemus Valenzuela
Director of Student Services

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.
- Tell your child that you and his or her teacher know they will be prepared for it 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.



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Mark West Elementary School
Tracy Lavin-Kendall, Principal
4600 Lavell Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

San Miguel Charter Elementary
Patrick Eagle, Principal
5350 Faught Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

John B. Riebli Charter Elementary
Patty Dineen, Principal
315 Mark West Springs Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Mark West Charter School
Michelle Franci, Vice Principal
4600 Lavell Road
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