



Diegueño Middle School

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2017–18 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments are online tests that measure what your child knows and is able to do in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics. 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 Science Test (CAST) is an online test. California is in the process of implementing the California Next Generation Science Standards. As part of that implementation, SDUHSD students in grades eight and twelve will try out this new test.

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 (Grades 7, 8 and 11)
- Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment in Mathematics (Grades 7, 8 and 11)
- The CAST *California Science Test* (Grades 8 and 12)

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 visit our [calendar](#), or you may contact our Assistant Principal Guen Butler at guen.butler@sduhsd.net.

Sincerely,

Guen Butler
Assistant Principal

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.*
- *Pursuant to California Education Code Section 60615, parents/guardians may annually submit to the school a written request to excuse their child from any or all of the CAASPP assessments.*