



Escondido Union High School District  
**District Service Center**  
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Steve Boyle, Superintendent

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Bill Durney  
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Dear Parent/Guardian of:

Each spring, eleventh grade students participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) and take the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment in English language arts/literacy and mathematics. These are online tests that measure what your child knows and is able to do. The test items include many different types of questions, including traditional multiple-choice questions as well as ones that require students to explain their answers, show their work, and compose essays.

This assessment will determine your child's Early Assessment Program (EAP) Achievement Level and provide you with an indicator of his/her predicted readiness to take college-level English and mathematics courses.

Knowing Achievement Levels at the end of the eleventh grade gives students the opportunity to use the senior year to improve skills. Whether your child plans to attend a California State University, one of the California Community Colleges, or another institution of higher education, taking steps to prepare for college before graduation is important to future success. You will receive Achievement Level results on CAASPP Student Score Report during the summer.

A significant benefit for students who perform at Achievement Level 4 on the CAASPP exams is that the student will be able to move directly into college-level courses upon enrollment. Students who perform at Achievement Level 3 will be encouraged to take appropriate courses in their senior year in order to move directly to college-level courses. Additional information about the next steps for students who perform at Achievement Level 3 or below is on the CSU EAP Web page at [www.csusuccess.org](http://www.csusuccess.org).

To learn more about either the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, 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 your child's school or see the school website.

Sincerely,

*Janet Huang*

Interim Director, Assessment & Accountability

**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/her teachers have high expectations and that you are 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.