



## EL RANCHO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

9333 Loch Lomond Drive, Pico Rivera, California 90660

Tel: (562) 801-7300 • Fax: (562) 801-7315

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 Carolyn Castillo  
 Leanne M. Ibarra  
 Jose Lara  
 Teresa L. Merino, Ph.D.  
 Gabriel A. Oroscio

SUPERINTENDENT  
 Karling Aguilera-Fort

February 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Each year, students in grades three through eight and high school participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). The CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress and ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and career. These exams are part of California's comprehensive plan for supporting high-quality learning at every school. They are based on California's more challenging academic standards, which are designed to help all students graduate ready for college and to pursue a career. These tests include a wider variety of questions than the multiple-choice tests they replaced, requiring students to explain how they solve problems, think critically, and write analytically. These skills take time and effort to master, but our students will need them to succeed in the long run.

For the 2018-19 school year, CAASPP consists of the following assessments:

- The Smarter Balanced online summative assessments in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and 11.
- The science assessment is the California Science Test (CAST), which is based on the Next Generation Science Standards. Students in grades 5, 8, 11 and 12 will be administered the CAST. For select 11th grade students who will go on to take science as seniors, they will take the CAST in their 12th grade year next spring.
- The California Alternate Assessments (CAA) in ELA, and Mathematics, will be administered to students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 11 with significant cognitive disabilities and whose individualized education program (IEP) indicates assessment with an alternate test.
- The California Alternate Assessment (CAA) in Science will be administered to students in grades 5, 8, 11 and 12 with significant cognitive disabilities and whose individualized education program (IEP) indicates assessment with an alternate test. For select 11th grade students who will go on to take science as seniors, they will take the CAST in their 12th grade year next spring.

The CAASPP assessments for our district will be administered during the testing windows listed below. Test dates vary according to school site. Please check with your child's school for specific testing dates.

TEST	GRADE	DATES
Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments (ELA & Math)	3 – 8 & 11*	February 26 – May 31, 2019
CAST-California Science Test (Science)	5, 8, 11, or 12	February 26 – May 31, 2019
CAA- California Alternate Assessment (ELA & Math)	3 – 8 & 11	February 26 – May 31, 2019
CAA-California Alternate Assessment (Science)	5, 8, 11 or 12	February 26 - May 31, 2019
Physical Fitness Test (PFT)	5, 7 & 9	February 12 - April 12, 2019

\*The Grade 11 Smarter Balanced online summative assessments will be used for Early Assessment Program (EAP) purposes.

Jacqueline A. Cardenas  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 Educational Services

ADMINISTRATION  
 Reynaldo Reyes  
 Interim Assistant Superintendent  
 Human Resources

Alejandro Rojas  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 Business Services

Dora Soto-Delgado  
 Director  
 Student Services

Dean Cochran  
 Director  
 Special Education

Roberta Gonzalez  
 Director  
 Early Learning Program

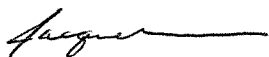
In addition to the CAASPP assessments, all students in grades five, seven, and nine will be tested in six areas of physical fitness. The goal of the California Physical Fitness Test (PFT) is for students to achieve the minimum fitness levels for all six fitness areas.

Now families will be able to securely access current and historical electronic Student Score Reports (SSR) by smartphone, tablet, or computer through the school district's parent portal.

Parents/guardians may request that their child not be administered any of the CAASPP tests. If you do not wish for your child to be tested, please contact your child's school to schedule a meeting with the principal and fill out a Parent Exclusion Form.

If you would like more information, please visit the Parent/Student tab of the CDE CAASPP Web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp>. To learn about the types of questions on the computer-based tests, practice tests are available at the California Department of Education (CDE) Smarter Balanced Practice Test Web page at <http://caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html>. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in any of these assessments, please contact your child's principal.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline A. Cardenas  
Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services