



BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Bonita USD, along with thousands of schools across California, are participating in a field test of a modern assessment system designed to help shape teaching and learning in the classroom. Known as the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), these computer-based tests replace the STAR program.

These tests are aligned to the Common Core State Standards for English and math, which California adopted in 2010 to describe what knowledge and skills students need to be well prepared for college and careers.

Part of the goal of the field test this year is to determine how well individual questions allow students to demonstrate what they know and still need to learn. We are also taking this opportunity to see how well our technical capabilities meet the demands of computer-based assessments and to see what resources our teachers and schools may need.

This year gives students an opportunity to try out the new system. No scores will be reported this year. Instead, we will use what we learn from this field test to help ensure a successful assessment process in 2014-15.

Our next step is to administer the field test to students in **grades 3-8 and 11** from **April 7- May 13**. If you want to see what types of questions students will be asked or how the test will be presented, there is a practice test available online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>.

If you would like more information, please visit the California Department of Education Smarter Balanced Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterfieldtest.asp>. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation, please contact Mark Rodgers at 909-971-8330 ext.5320.

Sincerely

Nanette Hall

Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services