



POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

September, 2018

Smarter Balanced State Assessment Results Coming

This past spring, students in grades 3 – 8 and in grade 11 took the 2018 Smarter Balanced Assessment in Mathematics and Language Arts. We anticipate your student's results will arrive at your home via the U.S. mail in mid-September.

We have provided information below on how to understand these test scores. It is important to remember that these scores are an important element in reviewing your child's academic progress and are one of many ways in which we review your student's success. Other areas to consider are classroom projects, writing assignments, math exercises, and classroom assessments given throughout the year, which all contribute information as we build a clear picture of how your student is progressing. Take a look at your child's classroom accomplishments this year, as well as these test scores, and use this complete body of information when helping your child set goals for improvement in the coming year.

PUSD teachers will use these scores as just one piece of information about our student performance and will work this fall, in conjunction with other student data to determine our goals and action plans for academic improvement across the district.

When you review these test results, please support your child in areas that seem to be more challenging, and take time to celebrate all of the different ways in which your child has grown this year.

You will receive a score report that describes your child's achievement based on four levels: Standard Exceeded, Standard Met, Standard Nearly Met, and Standard Not Met and a scale score to show growth when compared to their scores last year.

For students in grade 11, student scores from the Smarter Balanced test may be used by the California State University and California Community College as part of their process for placement in classes. Should your student be going to one of these colleges, and if your students scored in grade 11 at the Standard Exceeded level, they are considered ready for college-level coursework, and are exempt from taking the California State University (CSU) and participating California Community College placement tests. In most cases, this will eliminate the need for your student to take a placement test when they enter college and will spare them the time and extra expense of taking non-credit catch-up courses.

Students who score at the Standard Met level are conditionally ready for college-level coursework, and are encouraged to take appropriate courses in their senior year to move directly to college-level courses.

Students who score at the Standard Nearly Met or Standard Not Met levels are not yet demonstrating readiness for college-level coursework. That does not mean that they should not plan on attending college. Instead, these students may need to take a placement test when enrolling, and may need to take non-credit courses to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to succeed. We will work with your child to help him or her make as much progress as possible before graduating.

If you have questions about interpreting the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress score report, look to the following resource for more information:

<https://poway.instructure.com/courses/27903/pages/caaspp>

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