



March 23, 2018

Dear **Oakland Tech** Community:

Over the past several years, our teachers and staff have been working to implement California's Common Core Learning Standards in our classrooms. Now, we want to see how well we are doing and whether your children are understanding what they learn.

CAASPP End-of-Year State Tests

The California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP, is in its fourth year of implementation. CAASPP is a state mandated end-of-year testing program 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. CAASPP includes computer-based tests in English-language arts (ELA), Math, and Science. These assessments will take place from **April 10-17**, with make ups being administered until the window closes on May 20th.

Computer-Based Assessments for 11th graders

All students in grade **11** are required to participate in the CAASPP or the CAA/California Alternate Assessment of ELA and Math. These assessments will take three to four hours each to complete and will occur through 11th grade students' English classes.

New Science Computer-Based Assessments for 2018 for 12th graders

All students in grade **12** will take the online pilot CAST/California Assessment of Science Test or the paper CAA for Science Test for the most severely disabled. These pilots will take place during the same window as the ELA and Math tests in 12th grade students' Social Studies classes.

We encourage you to have your child tested because we believe that test results provide valuable information about your child for both you and the school. Participation is confidential and your child's grades will not be affected. Parents/guardians may request their child not be tested with any CAASPP test or any specific content area (ELA, Math or Science). If you don't want your child to take one or more CAASPP tests, submit a written request to the school prior to testing, as soon as possible. **However, we discourage this as we are required to have a 95% completion rate by the state/district, and opts outs count against that rate. Failing to meet a 95% completion rate negatively affects instructional time for teachers the following year.** If you do decide to opt your child out, include the child's/children's name(s), birth date, grade, teacher's name, the name of the specific test(s) or content area(s) they are to be exempted from, and a way to contact you such as your cell phone number or email address. Be sure to sign and date the request. Please note that, per state guidelines, if your request is received after testing has begun, any test(s) started before the request is received will be completed, scored, and the results reported to you and included in the student's records.

The district's CAASPP testing window begins in April and ends in May. **Our school will administer the SBAC/CAST Summative tests from April 10 to April 17 with make ups being held until the testing window closes in May.** CAA Summative tests will take from April 18 to May 20.

If you have any questions about the California's academic standards and/or assessments, please feel free to speak to your child's teacher or to contact me at **510-450-5400 or elisabeth.calzaretta@ousd.org**.

Sincerely,

Staci Ross-Morrison/Josue Diaz, Co-Principals