



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Dear Select District Superintendents and Charter School Administrators:

Starting Smarter: New Websites for Families

To help empower parents and families to become partners in their children's academic success, the California Department of Education and the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium have created the "Starting Smarter," family websites for the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) and the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC).

Using these websites, families can become involved in their child's progress and:

- Learn more about the performance areas in each subject and grade.
- See sample test questions.
- Prepare for parent-teacher conferences with a useful downloadable guide.
- Access high-quality resources to support learning at home.

Starting Smarter for the CAASPP can be found at <https://ca.startingsmarter.org/>, and Starting Smarter for the ELPAC at <https://elpac.startingsmarter.org/>.

Please encourage site administrators and teachers in your district to share this helpful resource with parents and families in one of the following ways: post an informational flyer in the parent portal, next to the Student Score Reports; share links to this resource via schoolwide or districtwide email; share an informational flyer during parent-teacher conferences in the fall; or post links to this resource on local social media platforms. Attached is the Starting Smarter parent informational flyer.

In fall 2019, the Starting Smarter websites will be updated to include Student Score Reports and resources for the California Science Test and the California Spanish Assessment. Informational flyers in English and Spanish for CAASPP are available at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/> and for the ELPAC at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ep/>.

Sincerely,

/s/

Thomas Adams, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent
Performance, Planning, and Technology Branch

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