



Dear Parent/Guardian:

This spring students in grade 11 will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) in English Language Arts and Math. Students in grades 11, and 12 will also be given the California Science Test (CAST) Operational Test. Students with disabilities may take different assessments more suited to their individual needs. The information gathered helps ensure we continue to improve our schools by addressing the needs of all students.

This year, student results will be electronically available via your secure AERIES parent portal, allowing you to view current and previous results. Student score reports (such as the example above) will show your student’s current achievement and previous performance in English Language Arts and Math. CAST (science) student scores will be reported for the current school year, but only for students in grades five, seven, eleven, and twelve.

CAASPP Testing

Modified Block Schedule: May 28-31, 2019

ELA Testing: LA3 Classrooms; Math Testing: Math Classrooms; Science Testing: LA 3-4 Classrooms

11th graders will take their CAST test on June 3-4 in LA3 classrooms

May 28, 2019		May 29, 2019		May 30, 2019		May 31, 2019	
Periods 1, 3, 5		Periods 2, 4, 6		Periods 1, 3, 5		Periods 2, 4, 6	
ELA CAT / Math CAT / CAST 12th		ELA CAT / Math CAT / CAST 12th		ELA PT / Math PT		ELA PT / Math PT	
0 Period	6:42-7:48	0 Period	6:42-7:48	0 Period	6:42-7:48	0 Period	6:42-7:48
1st Period	7:55-9:53	2nd Period	7:55-9:53	1st Period	7:55-9:53	2nd Period	7:55-9:53
Break	9:53-10:05	Break	9:53-10:05	Break	9:53-10:05	Break	9:53-10:05
3rd Period	10:12-12:10	4th Period	10:12-12:10	3rd Period	10:12-12:10	4th Period	10:12-12:10
Lunch	12:10-12:40	Lunch	12:10-12:40	Lunch	12:10-12:40	Lunch	12:10-12:40
5th Period	12:47-2:45	6th Period	12:47-2:45	5th Period	12:47-2:45	6th Period	12:47-2:45

To the individual student, the scores matter in a number of ways.

- **College qualification** - CAASPP scores are used to determine whether or not a student is college ready. Scores in the “exceeds standards” range mean a student is college ready. Otherwise, students will need to take additional courses, placement exams, or remedial college courses prior to accessing full college courses.
- **Course placement** - Scores in the “meets standard” range are considered “conditionally ready” for college. These students can take a course as seniors (Expository Reading and Writing and/or College Readiness Math) to be college ready (by Cal State Standards).
- **Seal of Biliteracy** - Students who are fluent in two languages must also score Met Standard or above on their CAASPP to qualify for this special recognition.
- **Golden State Seal Merit Diploma** - Students can qualify for this special diploma partly by scoring well enough to “meet standards” on the CAASPP. They also need to take a specific sequence of courses.
- **Reclassification as English Proficient** - CAASPP scores can help students who are designated as English Language Learners become reclassified as English Proficient.
- **Diploma value** - A diploma from a school with higher achievement scores can be perceived as more meaningful than a diploma from a school with lower scores.



To help your child prepare for the test you can ...

- *Talk about the test with your child. Make sure they are not scared or anxious.*
- *Take a practice test with your child.*
- *Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast before testing.*

To learn more about the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments or the CAST, go to the [California Department of Education Parent Guides to Understanding](#). You also can look at sample test questions on the practice tests, which can be found on the [CAASPP Web Portal](#).

VHS is home to outstanding students, teachers, and programs and we encourage full participation to ensure our students earn the recognition they deserve.

Thank you for investing in your student's education and for your ongoing support of our school.

Sincerely,

Olivia Yaung
Principal
Valencia High School