



Dear Parent Educator:

Each year, students participate in the statewide testing program, the **California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP**. The tests in the CAASPP System provide information to teachers, parents/guardians, and students about students' progress and readiness for college and career. As we have communicated in our monthly newsletters, our current testing window begins after spring break, according to the schedule below:

Hickman Site: Testing Sessions are assigned according to city of residence in an attempt to balance the number of participants for each testing session. All students will attend three days in a row during their assigned session. (*Note that **ending times are approximate**. These are untimed tests. See schedule on opposite side.*)

Session H-1: Residents of Modesto, Oakdale, and Waterford > April 25, 26, & 27, 2017
Tuesday (9-11:35), Wednesday (9-12:20), & Thursday (9-11:20 OR 12:30 for 5th & 8th)

Session H-2: Residents of all other cities, May 2, 3, & 4, 2017
Tuesday (9-11:35), Wednesday (9-12:20), & Thursday (9-11:20 OR 12:30 for 5th & 8th)

What should students bring on the days of testing?

- Students should **bring a book to read** in case they complete the testing session prior to dismissal of the testing group.
- Students should **NOT bring personal electronic devices** to school on this day. Personal electronic devices are not allowed in the testing rooms.
- The **school will provide a generic snack**. If students have restrictions on the snacks they can eat, please send appropriate snacks with them that they can eat during breaks.
- It is also a good idea to bring **personal bottled water** - a unique refillable and/or name-labeled bottle is best.

What tests will be given?

The **California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)** includes several components:

1. The computer-based **Smarter Balanced (SBAC)** assessments for ELA & Math for students in **grades 3-8**, consist of two parts, administered over the 3-day test session:
 - a. **Performance Task (PT)** comprised of an individually administered, computer delivered performance task which requires students to answer a set of complex questions that are centered on a common theme or problem.
 - b. **Computer Adaptive Test (CAT)** items include multiple-choice, matching tables, and drag-and-drop questions.
2. Online pilot of the **California Science Test (CAST)** for students **grades 5 and 8**. This online test takes place on Thursday and should last about one hour.
3. Further information is posted on our website at <http://hcs.hickmanschools.org/assessment1.html>

Why take these tests?

- These **assessments will provide you with a snapshot for your child's progress** toward achieving California state academic standards.
- These assessments plus other measures will **inform your instructional decisions**.
- **Your participation provides validation** of the excellent choices provided by Hickman Charter School.
- We need to achieve **a minimum of 95% assessment participation** to meet our Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) goals. Your participation in these assessments **helps us demonstrate the validity of our education model and the services we provide our students**.

As a California public school of choice we thank you in advance for your partnership in all aspects of our program to demonstrate the validity and value in our homeschool model. Your participation and support in the CAASPP assessments are essential to the continued success of Hickman Charter School.

Sincerely,

Frank Kampen

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2017

HCS Smarter Balanced Assessment Schedule - Hickman Site

Time	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00	CAT - Math (90-120 min total) Session 1: 9:00 - 10:15	CAT - ELA (90 min total) Session 1: 9:00 - 10:15	PT - ELA (120 min Total) Session 1: 9:00 - 10:00
9:30			
10:00	Break (20min) 10:15-10:35	Break (20min) 10:15-10:35	Break (20min) 10:00-10:20
10:30			PT - ELA Session 2: 10:20 - 11:20
11:00	CAT - Math Session 2: 10:35 - 11:35	CAT - ELA Session 2: 10:35 - 11:05	Break (10min) 11:20-11:30
11:30		PT - Math (75 min) 11:05 - 12:20	
12:00			CAST - Science 5th & 8th grade ONLY (60 min) 11:30-12:30
12:30			

Acronyms:

- CAT: Computer Adaptive Test
- CMA: California Modified Assessment
- CST: California Standards Test
- ELA: English Language Arts/Literacy
- PT: Performance Task

*Times allotted are based on estimates of the time it will take most students to complete the Smarter Balanced Assessments. **These assessments are not timed.***

NOTE: *the grade level room assignments will be distributed on campus as flyers during each testing week.*