



FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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August 2016

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Shortly before school ended last year, students in grades 3-8 and 11 took part in the 2016 Smarter Balanced Assessments or the California Alternate Assessments, computer-based tests for English language arts/literacy and mathematics.

These new exams are part of California's comprehensive plan for supporting high-quality learning at every school. They are based on California's academic standards, which are designed to help all students graduate ready for college and to pursue a career.

These tests include a wide variety of questions, requiring students to explain how they solve problems, think critically, and write analytically. These skills take time and effort to master, but our students will need them to succeed in the long run.

In our school district, we see these tests as an academic checkup. Like class assignments and report cards, they are one gauge of student progress – one way to provide you and your child's teachers with information about your child's work toward the high goals we have set for our students.

The student score report enclosed with this letter shows your child's achievement on these tests. You'll notice that along with an overall score for each subject, there is also information about how your child performed in different skill areas associated with English language arts/literacy and mathematics. If your child took these tests last year, this report also shows those scores. This year's scores can be compared to last year's scores as one measure of progress. However, please keep in mind, that as students advance to the next grade, the standards are higher.

To meet federal test requirements, California administered the California Standards Test (CST), the California Modified Assessment (CMA), or the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) for Science to each student in grade 5, 8, or 10. If your child was administered a science test, the results appear on the back of the student score report. While new assessments based on the Next Generation Science Standards are being developed, the California Department of Education will continue to use the CST, CMA, and the CAPA for Science.

The enclosed results are also being provided to your child's school, which will use them to help set learning goals for students this year. We invite you to take an active part in those discussions. If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress, please call the school office to arrange a conference with your child's teacher.

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