School Board Named WA Football Coach of the Year

Introducing New CHS Football Coach Chris Paulson

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State’s Mandatory Tests 

Measure Progress Toward Common Core Standards

For the last 20 years, students in Washington State have taken the statewide college-readiness tests known as the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL). All students in grades 3 through 11 will take standardized tests in mathematics and English language arts (ELA) between May and the end of the school year. Students in grade 9 will take the state standard test in English language arts (ELA). Some students in grades 9-12 will take two content-specific courses in algebra, biology, and English. While testing in spring is not required, students will take the new “Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium” tests (or SBAC) in subject areas. The SBAC exams are the first to measure progress toward the new, more rigorous Common Core State Standards (CCSS). We hope our answers will help you understand these new tests and answer the following questions will help you understand these new tests. In this description, we also provide information about what tasks are given at each grade level, when they are given, and how long they will take students to complete.

Q: Why is the acronym “SBAC” used for these exams?

“SBAC” stands for “Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.” This is a formation of groups, universities, testing centers, and other interested parties that is working to develop these new tests. This group develops, distributes, and scores the exams for students.

Q: When will the tests be given to students?

The SBAC testing windows will be offered during the months of March, April, May, and June. Each grade level will have one 3-5 hour time period when they are required to take the test. Not all students in a grade level will test on the same day. Different students will be given different tasks included in the chart. Parents of UPSD students will get more information about their testing dates and times from individual schools, school newsletters, and websites.

Q: How can students start to prepare for the SBAC tests?

Just like state tests taken in prior years, the SBAC tests will include practice tests for students. Practice tests will allow some students to experience a real testing environment and practice responding to new questions. Interim tests will be given at each grade level and include the GMADE, DIBELS, GRADE, GMRT, and COGAT tests, providing additional support. The tests are different at each grade level and include the OSMAD, DIBELS, GRADER, CCRCT, and PASS assessments. Parents must watch this this for information on how to prepare for the SBAC tests.

Q: What other tests are UPSD students required to take before actual testing?

In addition to the required state test, UPSD gives several district tests to measure student knowledge throughout the year in the purposes of monitoring their learning progress and providing additional support. The tests are different at each grade level and include the OSMAD, DIBELS, GRADER, CCRCT, and PASS assessments. Parents must watch this this for information on how to prepare for the SBAC tests.

Q: Will UPSD students be able to take practice tests before actual testing?

Students in grades 9-10, 11, and 12 will take practice tests to prepare for the SBAC tests. These practices will help students to prepare for the SBAC tests. These practices will help students to prepare for the SBAC tests.