



NEW END OF YEAR TESTING PROGRAM FOR SFUSD

FACT SHEET (updated 10/4/13)

What is the new state law regarding state administered student assessments?

On Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2013, Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 484, which suspends most Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) assessments for the current school year and establishes the California Measurement of Academic Performance and Progress (CalMAPP) assessment system. The CalMAPP system replaces the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program.

This new state law allows school districts to prepare for and transition to new assessment systems that are slated for administration statewide in the 2014-15 school year. The bill requires that district's participate in field testing of these new assessments, called Smarter Balanced Assessments, in 2013-14. The state will not be reporting out the results of the new assessments taken during the field testing period this spring.

Why has California decided to eliminate most STAR testing in the spring of 2014?

State Superintendent Torlakson has said, and SFUSD agrees, that California needs tests that measure how ready our students are for the challenges of a changing world. AB 484 is a huge step in that direction by giving school districts the opportunity to prepare for an assessment system focused on improving teaching and learning and aligned to the new common core curriculum, which is more rigorous and relevant.

What will the new law mean for students in SFUSD?

In light of this new legislation, SFUSD is in the process of creating a plan for year-end testing in the spring of 2014. SFUSD is considering the new change in testing requirements and determining whether or not to still continue with some form of end of year assessments that can be shared with teachers and families as it transitions to using Smarter Balanced Assessments district wide in the 2014-2015 school year. More information will be available in early November regarding what types of tests will be administered in the spring.

SFUSD will continue to use the Common Learning, Integrated Writing and other formative assessments throughout the year to help teachers understand what students are learning.

What will the new Smarter Balanced Assessments look like?

The new assessments will provide richer information about students' critical thinking and abilities in the content area, prompt students to produce a text or numerical response (instead of only filling in bubbles) and will collect evidence about their knowledge or understanding of a topic.

These assessments are accessible to wider-range of students through multiple entry points and multiple ways of demonstrating mastery.

What is the minimum that the state will require of SFUSD for the spring of 2014?

The State Superintendent will not provide school API scores that reflect the 2013-14 or 2014-15 school years. The state's new testing program in 2013-14 shall consist of:

- ELA and math online SBAC field tests for grades 3 – 8 and grade 11
- Grade-level Science assessments in grades 5, 8, and 10
- California Alternate Performance Assessments (CST, CAPA, & CMA) in grades 2 – 11 in ELA and Math, and science in grades 5, 8 and 10
- Voluntary Early Assessment Program (EAP) in ELA and math for grade 11
- Optional for LEA's to administer standards-based tests in Spanish (STS)

Since SFUSD is a CORE district and has received an NCLB-waiver, how will implementation of the *School Quality Improvement System* impact SFUSD's assessment plan for school year 2013-2014?

There are still a number of questions we are clarifying in order to develop a clear end-of-year summative assessment plan. This includes variables like: API determination, ELL reclassification criteria, and consideration of additional socio-emotional indicators. Our goal is to define an assessment plan that is coherent with CORE guidelines and meets our commitment to our U.S. Department of Education-granted waiver.