

Farmersville Unified School District

2015-2016 Notice to Parents



February 12, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Section 60615* of *California Ed Code* and section 852** of the *California Code of Regulations* requires that we notify parents of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) testing and their rights to opt out their child of any or all parts of CAASPP**. Students in grades 3-8, 10, and 11 will be taking the annual state CAASPP test between February 26, 2016 and June 2, 2016.

CAASPP tests are comprised of a mix of online and paper-pencil assessments. The online component contains the Smarter Balanced and California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics tests. The paper-pencil component includes CST/CMA/CAPA science tests and the optional STS for RLA. Smarter Balanced tests provide one measure of student knowledge of the subject matter, critical thinking, analytical writing, and problem solving skills they need to prepare for and succeed in today's world.

These assessments provide important information as to whether students are on track to pursue college and career by the time they graduate from high school. The tests provide timely and actionable student information so that teachers and schools can adjust and improve teaching to ensure students have the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in school and beyond.

Thank you

Farmersville Unified School District

* 60615. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a parent's or guardian's written request to school officials to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of the assessments administered pursuant to this chapter shall be granted.

**§ 852. Pupil Exemptions. (a) Each year the LEA shall notify parents or guardians of their pupil's participation in the CAASPP assessment system in accordance with Education Code section 60604. (b) The notification to parents or guardians, as defined in subdivision (a), shall include a notice of the provisions outlined in Education Code section 60615.(c) A parent or guardian may annually submit to the school a written request to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of any test provided pursuant to Education Code section 60640 for the school year. If a parent or guardian submits an exemption request after testing has begun, any test(s) completed before the request is submitted will be scored and the results reported to the parent or guardian and included in the pupil's records. An LEA and its employees may discuss the CAASPP assessment system with parents and may inform parents of the availability of exemptions under Education Code section 60615. The LEA and its employees shall not solicit or encourage any written exemption request on behalf of any child or group of children.