

SCHOOL NEWS JAMES MADISON

San Leandro Unified School District

Gerhard Grotke

Principal

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Newsletter

May 1, 2017

Principal's Message

As we enter in our state testing for grades 3-5, I wanted to share some suggestions from the California Department of Education that you can use to support your child during testing. These assessments are part of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System. Results from these assessments are just one piece of information to help teachers, parents, and students understand how well a student is meeting the grade-level expectations. If your child is in grades K-2, this is an opportunity to learn about the assessments your child will be taking in the future.

5 WAYS YOU CAN BE PREPARE TO HELP YOUR CHILD:

- ✓ **FIND OUT THE FACTS.** Students usually take the ELA and mathematics tests on different days. Since the test includes questions that measure critical thinking and problem solving they do take longer than "fill in the bubble" tests given on paper. For more information about the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments, talk to your child's principal, teacher and visit <http://bealearninghero.org/classroom/smarter-balanced>.
- ✓ **TAKE A LOOK AT THE PRACTICE TEST.** This will help you better understand the types of questions your child will be answering. You may want to walk through the test with your child to help familiarize him or her with the test format and features and answer any questions. To see a practice test, visit the California Department of Education's (CDE's) Smarter Balanced Practice Tests Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>
- ✓ **KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE LEARNING IN ELA AND MATHEMATICS.** To find out the learning expectations of your child's grade level in both subjects, take a look at the CDE's Parent Guides to the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caasppsrinfo.asp>. The guides explain the skills and knowledge your child is expected to learn each year.
- ✓ **USE YOUR CHILD'S TEST RESULTS FROM LAST YEAR TO IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE HE OR SHE MIGHT NEED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT.** Talk with your child's teacher to see what types of supplemental activities you can do at home. Find activities that match your child's performance in both subjects in the Be a Learning Hero Skill Builder at <http://bealearninghero.org/skill-builder>
- ✓ **PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE!** Homework is a great way to reinforce the skills and content your child learns every day in the classroom and that the tests measures. In addition to the state tests, it is another measure you can use to see how well your child is progressing throughout the year. To get homework help in both subjects, visit <https://homeworkhelpdesk.org/>. For sample problems and questions along with solutions and answers, visit <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/assessments/sample-questions/>.

California Department of Education
To see more results for James Madison see the link below

<https://www.caschooldashboard.org/#/Details/01612916002414/1/StudentGroupReport>



May:

Tue., May 2: PTO Meeting
7pm

Thu., May 18: Early Out
Schedule, Open House
Papa Murphy's Pizza
Fundraiser

Wed., May 24: PTO Fun-Run
Fundraiser 2-3pm

Mon., May 29: No School,
Memorial Day Holiday

Tue., May 30: Early Dismissal
Schedule: Spring Assessments

June:

Thu., June 1: Early Dismissal
Schedule: Spring Assessments

Fri., June 2: Wacky Olympics
8:30-11:15am

Mon., June 5: Early Dismissal
Schedule: Spring Assessments

Tue., June 6: Early Dismissal
Schedule: Spring Assessments

Thu., June 8: 5th Grade
Promotion and Swim Party

Thu., June 8: Last Day of
School 12:20pm Dismissal

Attendance Line
895-7940