



# Evergreen School District

*From strong roots grow bright futures*

April 2021

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

Evergreen School District families have received notification about our district's plan to use iReady as a local assessment, in lieu of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) statewide assessments in English Language Arts (ELA) and math, approved by the California State Board of Education for students in grades three to eight.

It is our commitment to ensure that our students are given the most appropriate summative assessment for their individual needs. Thus, we will be administering the computer-based California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for English language arts (ELA) and math for the spring assessment this 2020-2021 school year. The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) team makes the decision to determine who is eligible to take the CAA. The purpose of the CAA, aligned with the Common Core State Standards, is to measure what students know and can do. These measures help identify and address gaps in knowledge or skills early so students can receive the support they need. Accommodations, modifications, and designated supports listed on your child's IEP will be implemented throughout the duration of the test. The CAA for ELA and mathematics does allow flexibility in administration.

The CAA requires your child to test in-person with their teacher in a one-on-one setting. Our priority is to keep our students and educators safe by following state, county, and local health and safety requirements. As appropriate for each student, items will be presented via computer, paper, or manipulatives and are administered to the student over the course of one or more test sessions, as necessary to complete a content-area assessment. In addition, each student receives items that have been determined to be at an appropriate level of challenge.

The testing window for CAA is from April 12, 2021 to May 28, 2021. By the summer of 2021, you will receive your child's CAA assessment results, which includes information about how to interpret both overall score and growth. This informs the IEP team how to move forward with your child's related services and goals for the following school year.

We will focus on the administration of the CAA ELA and math assessments during the return to in-person learning model while some students remain in distance learning. For this reason, and because we have only delivered instruction via distance learning over the last year, the administration of the CAA science test will not be viable this year.

There are many ways to measure student learning, and the spring test is only one of them. It is not meant to tell the whole story, but when combined with other factors, like report card grades and teacher input, it will give families a more complete picture of their child's performance so that they can partner with teachers to accelerate learning in the months ahead.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school principal.

Sincerely,

Debbie Ashmore  
Assistant Superintendent