

Annual State Testing Spring, 2016 Update Smarter Balanced Assessments, Science CMT & CAPT, SAT

Presented to the RSD 17 Board of Education by:
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Presentation Overview

- RSD 17 Testing Dates
- Communication with RSD 17 families
- CMT/CAPT Science Test Administration
- Smarter Balanced Assessments
- SAT

Annual State Testing

REQUIRED: By federal and state law, universal student assessment is required in English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3-8 and once in high school annually. Also, by federal and state law an assessment is required in Science once in each “school level.” The CSDE and local education agencies (LEAs) are legally responsible to administer these assessments to all students.

- In 2010, Connecticut adopted higher, more rigorous standards, **Connecticut Core Standards**, to better prepare students for college and careers.
- New standards required newer state tests to align with the knowledge and skills found in these standards.
- Smarter Balanced tests replaced the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) and Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) for English/Language Arts and Mathematics.
 - 2015 was the first official administration of the Smarter Balanced tests.
- The SAT replaced SBAC for 11th grade; effective for the first time in 2016.

Annual State Testing

USEFUL FOR THESE PURPOSES:

- Assess student achievement and growth as part of program evaluation as well as district and school continuous improvement.
- Provide indicators of students' progress/ attainment of the knowledge and skills required to be college- and career-ready by the end of grade 12.
- Provide an annual snapshot of student achievement that should be used along with other information, such as district assessments, class work and unit tests, when making educational interpretations.
- **The standards assessed by annual state tests are embedded in our district curricula.**

RSD 17 Testing Dates

- **Science: CMT (Grades 5, 8); CAPT (Grade 10)**
 - CAPT: March 2nd
 - CMT: March 23rd
- **Smarter Balanced Assessments (Grades 3-8)**
 - English Language Arts and Math
 - Grades 3 & 4, May 2nd -12th
 - Grades 5-8, early April -mid May, depending on grade level
- **SAT (Grade 11)**
 - March 2nd

Communication with Families

- School letters emailed from Principals via School Messenger in early February regarding testing Dates/test administration time (handout):
 - **Elementary and Middle Schools:** Approximately 5 days for each student for approx. 45-75 minutes each day
 - **HKHS:**
 - Science CAPT, 1 hour and 40 minutes of testing time
 - SAT, 3 hour testing time

Smarter Balanced Tests Grades 3-8: 5 Test Sessions

- **Computer Adapted Tests (CATs)** in English Language Arts and in Math.
 - Variety of question types: Multiple choice (selected response); short constructed responses (open-ended);
 - 2 test sessions each subject
- **Performance Task (PT)** in Math (only)
 - Assess a student's ability to integrate and apply knowledge and skills across multiple mathematics standards to demonstrate depth of understanding and applied analysis.
 - 1 test session

State Changes Regarding Smarter Balanced Testing Effective 2016

- The Connecticut School Day SAT is replacing Smarter Balanced Testing for 11th graders, completely (English Language Arts and Math).
- The state, and therefore local CT districts, will not administer the Smarter Balanced Performance Task in English Language Arts.
 - This change results in a **reduction of 2 days of testing** for all of our 3rd-8th graders compared to last year.

SAT - Redesigned

- The first administration of the redesigned SAT is on **March 2, 2016** for all 11th graders in Connecticut.
 - The **PSAT** was also redesigned and HKHS sophomores took it in October.
 - The College Board has partnered with Khan Academy for free personalized online practice to complement classroom instruction. Access also offers a view into the design of the SAT (less of a mystery) via actual practice SAT questions.

Redesigned SAT Expects Students To:

- **Analyze and use reasoning to comprehend** literary and informational texts, including texts in science and social studies.
- **Revise and edit** texts from multiple content areas to improve upon development, organization, and expression of ideas, and apply appropriate conventions of writing.
- **Demonstrate command of math skills and concepts** and to use this command to solve problems in science, social studies, and career-related contexts.

Redesigned SAT Expects Students To (continued):

- Make **appropriate use of evidence** as they read and write.
- **Analyze data**, including data represented graphically.
- Demonstrate an **understanding of vocabulary in context** and how word choice affects meaning and tone.

Scoring

- The **total score** will be reported on a scale from 400-1600 (like the “old” scores)
 - Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (200-800 scale)
 - Math (200-800 scale)
- The **Essay** is no longer required by the College Board and is therefore reported separately from the total score (2-8 scale).
 - Colleges specify whether students are required to take the essay as part of their admissions process.
 - The essay is not part of the required CT SAT administration on March 2nd.

Where can I learn more about Smarter Balanced Assessments and the Redesigned SAT

- District Website <http://www.rsd17.org/parents4.shtml>
(Parents ->Curriculum & Instruction)