

Focus on Assessment

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CCSD's Last ACT of 2017*

Congratulations to all high school test coordinators and students in completing the 2017 ACT administration. This College and Career Readiness exam is a reliable source of data that provides students with valuable details that can assist in making future education and career decisions. The ACT student report is a compilation of the current college readiness levels for graduating classes. Students' scores are an effective indicator of whether or not students are meeting state and national benchmarks. This detailed data in the ACT student report is evidence based and can guide students in making choices that can assist in future successes. The ACT benchmarks can provide students with insight on their strengths and weaknesses and empower them to meet the demands of a 21st-century workforce. Students are encouraged to speak with their parents and counselor regarding ACT results on how to integrate these outcomes into their academic plan. ***Scheduled ACT make-up day is March 21, 2017**



WIDA: By Leaps & Bounds



As CCSD reinforces and supports schools with a balanced assessment system, we are reminded that improvement in student learning and achievement evidenced through assessments and data is the target. The role of assessment is paramount with respect to structure and form of the knowledge, skills, and supports needed by students and teachers in order to ascertain what is working instructionally.

Now that the Access for ELLs 2.0 test administration window has closed, schools are invited to access electronic reports in the DRC Insight system beginning May 12, 2017. Reports can help to initiate conversations on the possible following questions:

- Have expectations and instructional standards for English Language (EL) students been clearly defined and communicated by teachers or data teams at the school?
- Is there a feedback cycle used by students and teachers within the classroom to identify the individual needs of the EL student?
- Does the EL data reflect the strengths and obstacles as a school?
- What are the goals and the instructional strategies moving forward?

NAA: A Unique Student Assessment

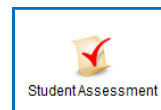


A variety of assessments are administered to our students in CCSD. Less than 1% of all students in Nevada take the Nevada Alternate Assessment (NAA). The NAA allows a unique group of students an opportunity to demonstrate the skills and learning they have acquired. This year's NAA testing window is February 29, 2017 through May 31, 2017.

Pro Tips for Test Coordinators



Please send your creative tips and tricks for efficient test administration so schools can reinvest in your successes. Send your innovative triumphs to Becca Meyer at rmeyer@interact.ccsd.net. Ideas are shared on InterAct at the following path:



Empowering Students to Be Successful Testers

This year's CRT (SBAC) testing window is March 9-May 31, 2017 (Grades 3-8), and it is very important for students to be motivated to do their best on the test. There are many strategies and tools schools can employ during testing to boost students' confidence and motivation.

Does your school develop a culture of celebration and preparation for assessment? Doing so will help build student assurance and anticipation for the summative assessments. Get the whole school involved by creating positive student activities. Here are a few ideas:

- Schedule a pep rally, make pep rally signs
- Lead the students in a parade
- Younger students can cheer for the older students' success



The Benefits of Pre-Testing



As students gain experience and confidence in taking online assessments by using the interim assessments in English Language Arts and math, they will develop stamina in the testing environment. This is an important aspect of performing at a high level on the summative assessments.







Setting schoolwide, grade-level, class, and individual goals can motivate students during testing season. Consider setting goals for perfect attendance and let students know they are supported! Information gleaned from student performance on the Interim Assessments may help in defining goals and targets for students.

Encouraging the Use of Universal Tools

Practice on the Online Tools Training (OTTs) will help students familiarize themselves with navigating through the assessment so that using the technology in the testing platform is not a barrier. The OTTs also offer an opportunity to practice all of the embedded Universal Tools to give the full testing experience. Please consider providing the link below to parents and students so they can engage in this preparation tool at home.



Using Google Chrome, access the OTTs by visiting: <https://wbte.drccedirect.com/NV/portals/nv>

 <p>END-OF-COURSE (EOC)</p>	 <p>SCIENCE Assessments</p>
<p>Online Tools Training</p>	<p>Online Tools Training</p>
 <p>SUMMATIVE Smarter Balanced Assessment</p>	 <p>INTERIM Smarter Balanced Assessment</p>
<p>Online Tools Training</p>	<p>Online Tools Training</p>