



Cougars

Home-Based Learning
"Bound For Success"
WASC Accredited TK-12

David Cline, Principal
Fred Rich, Superintendent

Hart-Ransom Academic Charter School

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Board of Trustees

Richard Fultz
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2015 STATE TESTING INFORMATION

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The testing season will soon be upon us and we need your support for overall success. Please review both the testing information and the schedule on the back of this page. Students need to be available for various testing days so we ask that you avoid trips and vacations during your scheduled testing times.

SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENTS (SBAC – Grades 3 through 8 and Grade 11)

The Smarter Balanced assessments are new computer-based tests that measure student knowledge of California’s English language arts and mathematics standards. These new assessments replace the former paper-based tests (STAR). The new assessments are computer-adaptive, providing students a wider range of questions tailored to more accurately identify the knowledge and skills each individual student has mastered. They are designed to measure student growth over time, which was not possible in California’s previous system, and will provide important information to guide student learning. Smarter Balanced provides 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. Practice tests are available online at <http://www.californiatac.org/practice-and-training/index.html>.

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS TEST for SCIENCE (Grades 5, 8 and 10)

The CSTs for Science are multiple-choice tests and in paper and pencil format. You may recall these as part of the STAR tests. They assess students’ achievement of California’s academic content standards in science. Practice tests can be downloaded at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/css05rtq.asp>.

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST (Grades 5, 7, and 9)

The physical fitness test (PFT) for students in California schools is the FITNESSGRAM®. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting life-long habits of regular physical activity. Students in grades five, seven, and nine take the fitness test, which has six parts that show a level of fitness that offer a degree of defense against diseases that come from inactivity. The PFT measures aerobic capacity, abdominal strength and endurance, upper body strength and endurance, body composition, trunk extensor strength and flexibility.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMINATION (CAHSEE – Grades 10 and above)

In California, all high school students must pass the CAHSEE to earn a high school diploma. California created the test to improve student achievement and help ensure that students graduate from high school with grade level skills in reading, writing, and math. Students first take this test in grade ten. If they do not pass the test in grade ten, they have more chances to take the test. In grade eleven, they can take the test two times. In grade twelve, they have up to five times to take the test. Students with disabilities can contact Mr. Cline for possible waiver options for CAHSEE. Exam blueprints may be downloaded from the State of California website at: www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/resources.asp

Sincerely,

David Cline
Principal



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2015 STATE TESTING SCHEDULE

Please review the schedules carefully and plan accordingly.

Students need to be available for various testing days.

Please do not plan trips or vacations during your scheduled testing days.

DATES ARE ALSO POSTED ON THE PARENT CALENDAR ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Smarter Balanced Assessment Dates

Each student in grades 3-8 and 11 will have a total of four testing days for the four different assessments; English language arts adaptive, English language arts performance task with teacher-led activity, mathematics adaptive, and mathematics performance task with teacher-led activity.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	April 21 9-12 a.m. Grade 11 SBAC	April 22 9-12 a.m. Grade 11 SBAC	April 23 9-12 a.m. Grade 11 SBAC	April 24 9-12 a.m. Grade 11 SBAC
	April 28 9-12 a.m. Grades 7/8 SBAC 1-3 p.m. Grades 5/6 SBAC	April 29 9-12 a.m. Grades 5/6 SBAC 1-3 p.m. Grades 7/8 SBAC	April 30 9-12 a.m. Grades 3/4 SBAC 1-3 p.m. Grades 7/8 SBAC	May 1 CST Science Gr. 5/8/10 Physical Fitness Gr. 5/7/9
	May 5 9-12 a.m. Grades 3/4 SBAC	May 6 9-12 a.m. Grades 3/4 SBAC		
	May 12 9-12 a.m. Grades 5/6 SBAC	May 13 9-12 a.m. Grades 5/6 SBAC	May 14 9-12 a.m. Grades 7/8 SBAC	May 15 9-12 a.m. Grades 3/4 SBAC

2014-2015 Designated High School CAHSEE Testing Dates

Important! Grade 10 may only test on the March dates.

The May testing dates are for 11th and 12th grade students who require an additional testing opportunity.

English–Language Arts	Mathematics
Tuesday, March 17, 2015	Wednesday, March 18, 2015
Tuesday, May 12, 2015	Wednesday, May 13, 2015