



Frank Augustus Miller Middle School

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Mrs. Cheryl Simmons
Principal

Mr. Mark Shaw
Assistant Principal

March 31, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope that your family has a FAMMtastic Spring Break! March 28th begins the last quarter of the 2015/16 school year. There are many end-of-the-year activities quickly approaching, beginning with State Testing now called California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) which has been aligned to our new state standards. These tests are computer-based and require the use of headphones. **We ask that students bring their Chromebook to school EVERY DAY– FULLY CHARGED and if possible, for students to keep a set of personal ear buds/headphones in their backpacks for use during testing.**

CAASPP testing **will** begin officially on Monday, April 18th and end on Friday, May 16th with make-up testing continuing on to May 27th. Eighth grade students will take the California Standards Test (CST) in Science on Tuesday, May 10th at 8:20 AM. This is a very important set of tests that every student in the state of California is expected to take. Your child's individual scores on these exams will:

- **Indicate whether he/she is on target to pass the High School Exit Exam (the requirement for receiving a High School diploma)**
- **Indicate academic areas needing growth**
- **Be used by teachers in middle school and high school to determine your child's placement in certain courses, such as advanced or intervention courses**
- **Contribute to the overall Academic Performance Index (API) score of Frank Augustus Miller Middle School**

Parents and students will receive assessment results in a readable and easy-to-understand format, in the US mail or possibly online. Further information to follow once it has been made available from the state.

To ensure your child's success on these tests, **attendance is very important** – please do not schedule any appointments during the school day. **Students will take the English/Language Arts tests from April 18th – 29th during their language arts class period. Students will take the math tests from May 2nd – May 16th during their math class period.**

It is imperative that students are rested and feel their very best on these testing dates. Teachers have been busy throughout the year preparing students for these exams. Homework will decrease during this time to encourage a good night's sleep. Our hope is that you will also encourage your child to do his or her best on the assessments. Here are some suggestions that will help your child have optimum performance during testing:

- **Have your child follow a normal routine! "Nothing in excess" is a good guide.**
- **Proper nutrition is a must! Have your child eat well balanced meals, especially breakfast. Our school cafeteria will be open daily for breakfast from 7:00 to 7:25 am.**
- **Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep.**
- **Encourage moderate exercise so your child feels good, but is not exhausted.**
- **Please make sure your child arrives to school on time and attends for the ENTIRE day.**
- **Send your child off to school with words of encouragement.**
- **Be sure your child has a FULLY CHARGED Chromebook with them at school EVERY DAY.**

We cannot emphasize enough how important these things are to your child's success. So, thank you in advance for your continued support and cooperation in helping your child have a successful and undisrupted time during testing.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Shaw
Assistant Principal