



Dear Arlington Families,

From March 22nd to May 7th, students in grades 3-8 and 11 will take the state assessment in (a) English Language Arts and (b) Mathematics. Students in grade 5, 8 and 11 will also take the state assessment in (c) Science.

The assessments measure student achievement of our state's standards in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. In addition, score reports will provide information on student performance in the following areas:

- English: Reading, writing, listening, & research
- Math: Concepts and procedures; problem-solving and modeling/data analysis; & communicating reasoning
- Science: physical science, life science, and earth & space science

The assessments are given through an online computer application and are unique in the way they adapt to a student's question responses. This is important as it provides questions that are appropriate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude towards testing. These assessments are not timed; however, we provide the following times as estimates of assessment duration: (a) English: 3.5 - 4 hours, (b) Math: 3 - 3.5 hours and (c) Science: 1 - 1.5 hours.

Student grades will not be impacted by their performance on this assessment, however the assessment does serve as a way for the school to analyze how well we are helping students meet the standards. Shortly after the testing period is complete, you will receive a report showing your child's scores.

There is no need to study in preparation for the assessments. We do, however, ask that parents help students prepare for testing days by ensuring they get plenty of rest on nights before testing and eat a good breakfast the mornings of testing. We want students to try their best so words of encouragement would be great too! It is important for students to come to school on test days. State assessments are required, therefore making up a missed assessment leads to less instructional time and a loss of important learning opportunities.

Thank you for supporting your child and our school during this assessment period! Attached is a schedule (subject to change) of our Smarter Balance tests. Please contact us if you have any questions.



Smarter Balanced Test Schedule - 2021

	ELA	Math	Science
3rd grade	March 22nd & 23rd	April 20th & 21st	N/A
4th grade	April 12th - 16th	April 12th - 16th	N/A
5th grade	April 12th, 13th, & 14th	April 19th, 20th, & 21st	April 22nd & 23rd
6th grade	April 12th, 13th, & 14th	April 19th, 20th, & 21st	N/A
7th grade	April 12th, 13th, & 14th	April 20th, 21st, & 22nd	N/A
8th grade	March 29th, 30th, & 31st	April 12th, 13th, & 14th	April 21st & 28th
11th grade	March 30th, 31st, & April 6th	April 16th & 21st (Algebra 2 & General Math students)	April 19th & 20th (Environmental Science students) April 15th & 22nd (Chemistry students)