

GRAND RIVER ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER



them to contact their teacher if they are confused or have a question.

- Remember that students can catch up or work ahead on “off” days.

Online learning can be challenging. So don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for support. We are your partners in ensuring a quality education for your child.

Warmest Regards,

Steve States

Wanted

If you have a soccer goal(s) that you no longer want or need, please consider donating them to the school. Thank you.

A Note from the Principal

December can be a very busy month. There are many holiday and family events taking place. As an online/blended school, students spend 80% of their weekly learning time working independently. This requires self-motivation and the ability to prioritize and put their online schooling ahead of many preferred activities. That's not easy to do, especially in the busy month of December. That's where family support comes in. Help your student be successful in their online schooling in the following ways:

- Help them set and follow a schedule for their online studies. Students should be working 5 1/2 to 6 hours a day on their online studies.
- Provide a quiet, dedicated spot for your student to do their online schooling.
- Check their progress regularly either by logging into your parent account or logging into your student's account. Talk to them when they have fallen behind in subjects and encourage



December Calendar

- 4th Elementary Learning Coach Meeting
- 5th Elementary Learning Coach Meeting
- 10th Elementary Eureka Math and Science Center field trip, 11:00am-1:00pm.
- 10th Middle School Eureka Math and Science Center field trip, 12:50pm-3:00pm
- 17th No clubs or tutoring
- 18th School Advisory Meeting, 4pm-5pm
- 24th-Jan. 7th Winter Break, No School

- k-5th grades- Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm (optional day)
- *6th grade- Tuesday 8:30am-2:30pm
- *7th grade – Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm
- *8th grade- Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm
- 9th grade- Tuesday 9am-2:30pm
- 10th grade- Wednesday 9am-2:30pm
- 11th grade- Thursday 9am-2:30pm
- 12th grade – Friday 9am-12pm
- *6th, 7th, and 8th grade have “Stay & Play” from 2:30pm-3:00pm on their scheduled day (optional).

Attendance Matters

Attendance is one predictor of student success. It is important that students attend on their weekly day in order to learn academic content that will help them be successful in k12 for k-5 and Odysseyware for 6-12. Please make sure your student attends regularly on their scheduled day:

- K-2nd grades- Tuesday 8:30am-2:30pm
- 3rd-5th grades- Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm

Grand River High School Clubs

December 10th Riverwatch 1:00pm-3:00pm
(Contact Mrs. Peterson)

Mondays

- 11:00am-12:00pm Dungeons & Dragons
(Contact Ms. Overturf)
- 12:00pm-1:00pm Anime
(Contact Ms. Overturf)
- 1:30pm-2:30pm Art/3D Printing
(Contact Mrs. Stocks or Mrs. Clement)

2:30pm-3:30pm	Criminology (Contact Mrs. Clement)	2:00pm-3:00pm	Gym Activities (Contact Mr. Ahrens or Mr. Stoner)
Times TBD	Field Trips will be scheduled and communicated in advance.	Times TBD	Field trips will be scheduled and communicated in advance.
Fridays			
12:00pm-1:00pm	Student Council (Contact Mr. Ahrens)		
1:00pm-2:00pm	Video Game (Contact Mr. Stoner)		
1:00pm-2:00pm	Photography (Contact Mr. Ahrens)		

Car Club

Mr. Larry Robbins will be starting up a car club in December. If your student is interested in participating in the club or getting additional information, please contact Mr. Robbins.



1-877-542-7233

safe2tellco.org

Anonymously Report Concerns 24/7



Help us fuel successful learning!



Do you love to cook from scratch ingredients at home?

Do you want to be a part of the healthy school meal changes in School District 51?

WE NEED SUBSTITUTE CULINARY STAFF FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR!

Mesa County Valley School District 51 is hiring **culinary substitutes** for the 2018-19 school year all positions begin August 13th - 15th, 2018

- Substitute staff have the flexibility to choose where & when they work.
- Start times range from 6am to 10am and end by 2pm.
- Substitute culinary staff develop skills to assist in qualifying for future permanent positions.

View job description and available positions at
<https://www.applitrack.com/d51schools/onlineapp/>

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider





A RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS AND PARENTS

COLORADO MEASURES OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS

What to Expect for the 2018-2019 School Year



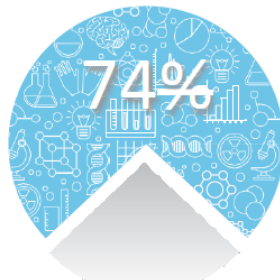
COLORADO
Department of Education

Overview

The Colorado Academic Standards set statewide expectations of what students should know and be able to do at the end of each grade. The standards incorporate future skills and essential knowledge that the next generation will need to be successful in college and careers. Colorado's statewide end-of-year assessments are aligned with the standards and help us determine if students have mastered grade-level expectations by the year's end. The standards set clear, consistent guidelines for what students should know

and be able to do at each grade level across 10 subject areas, including English language arts, math, science and social studies. The rigorous standards were designed by educators and researchers, with significant input from higher education and workforce leaders, to help students prepare for life after high school. The standards were updated in 2018 to ensure their continued relevancy. Districts will transition to the revised standards over the next several years with full implementation expected in the 2020-21 school year.

The Need for Rigorous Standards



In 2020, 74% of all jobs in Colorado

3 MILLION JOBS

WILL REQUIRE

EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

Key Components of the Standards

Across all 10 content areas, the standards are created to ensure students are prepared for college and careers after high school.

RIGOR

Students use inquiry, critical thinking and creative processes to solve problems

RELEVANCY

Students engage in real world scenarios that require the application and transfer of concepts and skills

DISCIPLINARY LITERACY

Students learn to speak, think, work and argue like mathematicians, artists, scientists, authors and historians

Assessments Align with Rigorous Standards

To accurately measure student mastery of these skills and expectations, Colorado assessments align with the Colorado Academic Standards. Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessments are the state's common measurement tool of student progress at the end of the school year in English language arts, math, science and social studies for students in grades three

through eight, as well as for science in grade 11. Designed to be administered online, the tests feature a variety of interactive questions that are engaging and aligned with 21st century teaching and learning practices. They help determine whether students have mastered the grade-level expectations and provide teachers and parents factual information on what needs to be improved upon in the coming years.

JULY 2018

What to Expect for the 2018-2019 School Year

Why Do We Need Statewide Assessments?

Statewide assessments provide valuable information to students, parents, districts and taxpayers about overall academic performance. Summative, end-of-the year assessments provide point-in-time snapshots of what students know and can do in core academic areas. They help students, families and educators know how

students are performing on standards compared to their peers across the state. They also help determine how they are growing over time. In addition, they help provide information on how well the state's education system is meeting the goals of helping every child attain academic proficiency.

College Board's High School Assessments

Colorado students in the ninth and 10th grade take the PSAT tests, which are precursors to the SAT that is taken by 11th graders. The Khan Academy offers voluntary, optional and free practice resources for the PSAT and SAT, including paper tests, a daily practice app and a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club. Additionally, students can get connections to

scholarship providers, access to online college and career planning materials and feedback to support opportunities for rigorous coursework.

2018-19 Tests

In the 2018-19 school year, CMAS testing will take place from April 8 – 26. However, the Colorado Department of Education will allow districts to begin testing online earlier in the content areas of science and social studies for high school and English language arts and math for all grades if they cannot complete testing within the allotted timeframe due to limitations on the number of computers or other devices needed for testing. The maximum test window for science and social studies is three weeks and for English language arts and math is five weeks.

COLORADO STATE ASSESSMENT 2018-2019 CALENDAR

AUGUST 2018

CMAS English language arts, math, science and social studies, PSAT, and SAT 2018 results publicly released

APRIL 8 – 26, 2019

Official CMAS English language arts, math, science and social studies administration window

APRIL 9, 10, 11 2019

PSAT administered to ninth- and 10th-grade students

APRIL 9, 2019







SAT administered to 11th-grade students

SUMMER 2019

2019 Results for CMAS English language arts, math, science and social studies, as well as PSAT and SAT available to schools and districts

What to Expect for the 2018-2019 School Year

Which Tests Will Students Take?

GRADES 3 THROUGH 8	GRADES 4, 7 AND 11	GRADES 5, 8 AND 11	GRADES 9 AND 10	GRADE 11
 <p>ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY</p>  <p>MATH</p>	 <p>SOCIAL STUDIES (sampling about one-third of schools participating)</p>	 <p>SCIENCE</p>	 <p>PSAT</p>	 <p>SAT</p>

Why Are Statewide Tests Important?

CMAS tests are the only common measuring tool for students in grades 3 through 8 in Colorado and the PSAT and SAT, along with CMAS science and social studies, are the only common tests taken by high school students. Participation is important because results help students, parents, schools and districts understand whether students have mastered the content they need to know by the end of the school year and are on track to be ready for college or career after graduation. State law requires local school

boards to develop a policy allowing parents to excuse their students from participating in one or more state assessments. According to the law, districts cannot impose negative consequences on students who are excused from taking an assessment by their parents. Likewise, districts cannot impose burdens on students to discourage them from participating in an assessment, and they must offer all students who are excused from testing the opportunity to participate in celebrations or incentives related to the assessment.

How Will State Tests Be Used?

Parents should know whether their children are gaining the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in today's complex world. CMAS, PSAT and SAT serve as Colorado's only common measurements for students, helping teachers and parents understand whether students have mastered the content they need to know by the end of each school year in order to be on track for college and career success. Parents can use test scores to compare how their students and schools are doing to other students and schools across the district and the state.

Schools and districts can use test results to make improvements to instruction or to develop additional support and enrichment for students who need more help mastering the standards.

Results from the 2018-19 school year will be used for school and district accreditation ratings in 2019 and for educator evaluations in the 2019-20 school year. Even after the scores become part of accountability measures, they will not serve as the sole measurement for schools and teachers – other factors will still apply.

When Will Results Be Publicly Available

Student-level CMAS results from the spring assessments are expected to be available to districts in June. School, district- and state-level summary

results of students' tests in English language arts, math, science, social studies, PSAT and SAT will be released to the public in August.