

Torrey Pines High School

3710 Del Mar Heights Road, San Diego, 92130
Mailing: c/o 710 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, CA 92024
858-755-0125 Fax 858-481-0098 tp.sduhsd.net

Principal
Robert Coppo

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Union High School District

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Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments California Science Test

Dear Parents/Guardians of 12th Grade Students:

California's academic standards—the things we want students to know and be able to do—are designed so students graduate ready for college and a career. One way we measure their progress is through the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) assessments. Students across California in grades 3–8 and high school take these assessments each spring. Because CAASPP tests are given statewide, they provide an opportunity to measure the skills of all students against the same academic standards.

This year your child will take the following test:

- **The California Science Test – Pilot Test**

California Science Test—Pilot Test

California's new state standards for science call for students to think and work like scientists and engineers—asking questions and learning through hands-on investigation and discovery. Working with science teachers, California is developing a new assessment that emphasizes scientific thinking and reasoning. This year your child will participate in the tryout of test items for this future assessment. While this tryout will not provide scores for your child, it is an important first step in developing an assessment that will fairly and accurately measure how students are achieving on the new science standards.

For additional information about the new science tests and sample questions, please visit the CDE's CAASPP Science Assessment Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/caasppscience.asp>.

Another great resource is the Practice and Training Tests, which can be found on the CDE's Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/practicetest.asp>. Here, parents can experience the kinds of questions that students will encounter on the tests.

If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in statewide assessments, please contact Assistant Principal, **Vidalia Resendes** at vidalia.resendes@sduhsd.net.



Robert Coppo
Principal