



# Mother Lode Union School District

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## Board of Trustees

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

There are many ways to measure your child's learning. Your child's teacher uses report card grades, classroom work, teacher observations, and end-of-year statewide test results to get a complete picture of your child's learning. Each year, students participate in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). Your child will take the following tests, depending on their grade level or instructional program:

- Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for English language arts and math, required tests in grades 3–8
- California Science Test (CAST), a required test in grades 5 and 8

Students at **Indian Creek Elementary** will complete these assessments on the school days indicated below.

**Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> & Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 9:25am-12:15pm**

**Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> , Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, and Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:25am-12:15pm**

You are an important part of your child's education. To make sure your child feels comfortable taking tests, you can:

- Explain to your child that these tests are tools to help them learn, and they should not be anxious or scared.
- Explore the practice tests with your child at [caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html](https://caaspp.org/practice-and-training/index.html) so they can become familiar with the platform and setup of the tests.
- Remind your child that you and their teacher want them to try their best and are there to help, every step of the way.

You will receive your child's results at or before the beginning of the next school year. The results will identify where your child is doing well or needs more help, so you can better support their learning at home and teachers can better support their learning in the classroom.

To learn more about these tests go to the Starting Smarter web page at [ca.startingsmarter.org/](https://ca.startingsmarter.org/), or review the Parent Guides to Understanding at [cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp](https://cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/parentguidetounderstand.asp).

If you have questions, please contact our school office.

Sincerely,

**Jennifer Kloczko**  
Principal, Indian Creek Elementary

*The Mission of the Mother Lode Union School District is the successful education of every student.*