Superintendents/Principals to Educators about Score Reports

*Use this entire article or just portions of it to communicate with educators about the score reports.*

**Parents to receive score reports that identify a student’s academic strengths and areas for improvement**

Parents will soon receive score reports that detail how their students performed on the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) tests in English language arts, math and science that students across the state took last spring.

While the number of required state assessments administered in spring 2021 was reduced to provide relief from COVID-19, the full set of assessments administered in spring 2022 gives us a more complete picture of how our students are performing following the disruptions and lost learning opportunities caused by the pandemic. The score reports parents receive will help explain whether their student is meeting grade-level expectations laid out in the Colorado Academic Standards and whether they are on track for the next grade level.

Please remind parents that these tests are the only common measurement across the state of students’ progress on the Colorado Academic Standards. While some students’ academic performance may reflect the impact of pandemic disruptions, the results are important because they show whether students are performing at grade level and how students are doing compared to their peers in our school, district and state.

At the same time, these tests represent just one measure of a student’s progress. Classroom grades and teacher feedback can inform a more complete picture of a student’s academic progress. When you meet with parents, please help them gather a broader picture of their child’s achievement from last year and understand the areas to focus on this coming year.

You can use the CMAS reports as discussion guides with parents to help identify where their child is excelling and where they may need improvement. For areas of improvement, please help parents consider what additional supports may help their child succeed so they can better understand where to focus learning time at home.

The state has received federal American Rescue Plan funds through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief fund (ESSER III) specifically to address learning loss caused by the pandemic. *[add information about district- and school-level initiatives to support students.]*

CDE has created additional tools to help parents understand the purpose of the tests and how to interpret the score reports. Handouts in both English and Spanish include information about the tests, a guide to understanding the CMAS score reports and explainers about the SAT and PSAT. All the resources can be found at: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents>.