

## **California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)**

Signed into law on October 2, 2013, Assembly Bill 484 launched a new student testing system for California's schools, now called the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). The CAASPP system is based on the State's new California Common Core State Standards (CA CCSS) for English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, adopted by the State Board of Education in 2010. This new system replaces the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program that was based on 1997 standards. The primary goal of the new statewide testing program is to better prepare all students for college and careers in the twenty first century. Computer-based assessments, developed through the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, form the cornerstone for CAASPP. All 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students take the new exams. For our severely disabled students, an alternative exam is available.

California Education Code states that parents/guardians can submit a written request to the principal of their student's school if they do not wish to have their student take any or all parts of the State's CAASPP tests. Berryessa teachers and schools support students to do well on the tests and help them learn test-taking skills that will enable them to be successful throughout their school career and beyond. We encourage parents to contact their child's teacher or principal with any concerns they may have about the tests before they request that their student be excluded from taking the test(s).

### **Additional State Testing**

- All 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders take the Physical Fitness test in early spring, which assesses student physical wellness.
- The English proficiency of all English Language Learners (ELLs) is assessed using the California English Language Development Test (CELDT). Initial CELDT Assessments are administered, if possible, during the summer. The rest of the exams is given in September and October of each year.