

MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL

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March 5, 2020

Good Afternoon Students & Families of Mann Middle School,

In the coming weeks, our students will take the Colorado Measures for Academic Success (CMAS), an annual standardized assessment mandated by the Colorado Department of Education. **It is very important that all students arrive to school on-time and stay for the duration of the school day on the following dates:**

- Tuesday, April 7 – Language Arts & Math for all students
- Wednesday, April 8 – Language Arts & Math for all students
- Thursday, April 9 – Language Arts & Math for all students
- Tuesday, April 14 – Science for 8th grade & Social Studies for 7th grade

In the event that District 11 calls a 2 Hour Delay or a Snow Day, we will test on the following school day. I do want you to know that these assessments are an important part of your child's education at Mann Middle School, and in the effort to be transparent, I hope the questions and answers listed below provide you with further insight about CMAS.

How does state testing assist staff at Mann Middle School?

CMAS testing allows staff to assess how well our students are mastering content standards in Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. The results are an important indicator of both the quality of teaching and quality of learning taking place in our classrooms. For educators around the building, we need this information to identify areas of growth and strategies for improvement so that we can help all students grow and achieve academically. As a building leader, I need this information to know if our teachers are delivering effective instruction and whether or not our students are learning at their grade level.

How does state testing impact Mann Middle School?

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) grades all schools in Colorado through the School Performance Framework (SPF). Although there are numerous components that affect our school's rating, student results on CMAS and their participation rates are by far the greatest factors. Based on last year's data, Mann Middle School earned the rating of "Performance" from the CDE. The rating indicates that Mann Middle School provides students with quality instruction and students are performing as expected. This year, our goal is to maintain a rating of "Performance" and score even higher on the SPF rubric. This requires that at least 95% of our students participate in the CMAS assessments.

How does state testing support my child?

We need test results for all students at our school in order to make informed educational decisions. These results help us determine if a student requires intervention classes for extra support or advanced classes for additional enrichment. These results are also part of a body of evidence to help us understand each student's achievement level. The score report that each student receives allows students and parents to assess areas of strength and areas for growth. When students and parents know their performance level, they can better set college and career goals.

What are some ways that I can support my child with school in general and with upcoming state testing?

There are numerous ways that you can support your child academically. These strategies include:

- Eat dinner as a family. Use this as an opportunity to talk with your student about their experiences at school.
- Provide a quiet workspace for your student. Verify that they are completing their homework by checking grades on "Q" and contacting teachers if needed.
- Read at home with your student.
- Make sure your child gets plenty of sleep each night.
- Ensure your student gets a healthy breakfast each morning. We provide a free breakfast for all students daily.
- Remain positive and supportive. The best test-takers are calm, confident, and persistent.
- Encourage your student to do their best. All we ask for is their best effort.
- **Make every effort to have your student here on-time and for the entirety of all scheduled testing days.**

I want to thank you for continuing to support the students and staff at Mann Middle School. We genuinely appreciate all of your efforts to help ensure that testing is successful. If we can answer additional questions, please contact the school at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Leah Segura

Principal

Mann Middle School