Taylor Carpenter - K12 School Counselor, District Testing Coordinator
Taylor.Carpenter@k12.sd.us
(605) 886 - 9174

Dear Coyote Families,

From April 13th to April 17th, students in grades 3-8 will take the state assessment in (a) English Language Arts and (b) Mathematics. Students in grade 5 and 8 will also take the state assessment in (c) Science.

The assessments measure student achievement of our state's standards in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. In addition, score reports will provide information about student performance in the following areas:

- English: Reading, writing, listening, & research
- Math: Concepts and procedures; problem-solving and modeling/data analysis; & communicating reasoning
- Science: physical science, life science, and earth & space science

The assessments are given through an online computer application and are unique in the way they adapt to a student's responses. This is important as it provides questions appropriate for your child's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward testing.

Student grades will not be impacted by their performance on this assessment; however, the assessment does serve as a way for the school to analyze how well we are helping students meet the standards. Shortly after the testing period is complete, you will receive a report showing your child's scores.

We ask that parents help students prepare for testing days by:

- Making sure they get plenty of rest the night before testing
- Providing a good breakfast on the mornings of testing (school breakfast will be served until 8:35 a.m. on testing days)
- Offering words of encouragement to help them feel confident
- Students will need headphones as well, so please send a pair with them that can stay at school.

It is important for students to come to school on test days. State assessments are required. Therefore, making up a missed assessment leads to reduced instructional time and a loss of important learning opportunities.

Thank you for supporting your child and our school during this assessment period! On the back is a schedule of our Smarter Balanced tests. Please contact Ms. Carpenter if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Taylor Carpenter

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	ELA	Math	Science
3rd Grade	April 13th-15th 8:45 - 9:35 / 10:00 - 10:50	April 16th-17th 8:45 - 9:35 / 10:00 - 10:50	N/A
4th Grade	April 13th-15th 8:45 - 9:35 / 10:00 - 10:50	April 16th-17th 8:45 - 9:35 / 10:00 - 10:50	N/A
5th Grade	April 13th-15th 8:45 - 9:35 / 10:45 - 11:25	April 16th-17th 8:45 - 9:35 / 10:45 - 11:25	April 21st 8:45 - 9:35 / 10:45 - 11:25
6th Grade	April 13th 8:45 - 11:00 / 1:00 - 3:15	April 14th 8:45 - 11:00 / 1:00 - 3:15	N/A
7th Grade	April 13th 8:45 - 11:00 / 1:00 - 3:15	April 14th 8:45 - 11:00 / 1:00 - 3:15	N/A
8th Grade	April 13th 8:45 - 11:00 / 1:00 - 3:15	April 14th 8:45 - 11:00 / 1:00 - 3:15	April 15th 8:45 - 11:00