



320 Chapman Street  
Wiggins, CO 80654  
970-483-7762  
[www.wiggins50.k12.co.us](http://www.wiggins50.k12.co.us)

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March 23, 2018

Dear Wiggins School District Families:

Students in grades 3-8 will soon begin taking the statewide assessments that are aligned to the Colorado Academic Standards and measure real world skills like problem solving, communicating and thinking critically—skills that are critical to success in college and careers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. These assessments, called the Colorado Measures of Academic Success tests, examine students' knowledge in English language arts, math, science and social studies and will be given over a three-week window between April 09<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>.

It is important to understand that our overall goal is to provide a snapshot of how our students are progressing toward that goal and how our teachers can better help them achieve it. The tests are aligned to the work already being done in the classroom and the results can help teachers improve or modify their instruction better meet the needs of each student.

It is also important to remember that these tests are just one measure of a student's progress, but they are the only common measurement across the state that helps parents understand how their children are doing compared with their peers around the state, how the school is performing and how the district is doing overall. The information from the tests also helps policymakers identify schools or districts that need help and which ones should be celebrated for their success.

Current assessments are designed to help reveal how students are progressing toward that goal, but the information won't be there if students don't take the assessments. In recent years, the state has worked to reduce the number and length of tests for our students in an effort to answer the call from parents who were unhappy about the overload.

This year, we are introducing the PSAT 8/9 for 9<sup>th</sup> graders to replace the CMAS tests for that grade. Students in grade 10 will take the PSAT 10 and students in grade 11 will be the SAT as well as the CMAS 11<sup>th</sup> grade Science assessment.

Please see the attached calendar for testing dates and times. We ask parents and families to ensure their children get plenty of sleep and a healthy breakfast every day, but especially on assessment days. If there are appointments that need to be made, we hope this calendar will help you to make those appointments on non-assessment days and during non-assessment times.

We appreciate your support during this time. Assessments, including CMAS as well as those taken throughout the year, are vital tools for teachers to support student success. There are online resources and practice tests available on the district's website at [www.wiggins50.k12.co.us](http://www.wiggins50.k12.co.us). If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Trent Kerr  
Superintendent

# Wiggins School District 2018 Assessment Schedule

**\*Dates and times are subject to change with short notice.**

## Grade 3:

English Language Arts: April 10, 11, 12 9:00 – 11:00

Math: April 13, 16, 17 9:00 – 10:30

## Grade 4:

English Language Arts: April 10, 11, 12 9:00 – 11:00

Math: April 13, 16, 17 9:00 – 10:30

## Grade 5:

English Language Arts: April 10, 11, 12 9:00-11:00

Math: April 13, 16, 17 9:00-10:30

Science: April 17 1:00-3:00 & April 18 9:00-11:00 & 1:00-3:00

## Grade 6:

English Language Arts: April 12, 13, 16 8:30-10:45

Math: April: April 12, 13, 16 11:15-12:30

## Grade 7:

English Language Arts: April 12, 13, 16 8:30 – 10:45

Math: April 12, 13, 16 11:15-12:30

Social Studies: April 17 8:30 – 10:00 & 10:30 – 12:00 Aril 18 8:30 – 10:00

## Grade 8

English Language Arts: April 12, 13, 16 8:30 – 10:45

Math: April 12, 13, 16 11:15-12:30

Science: April 17 8:30 – 10:00 & 10:30 – 12:00 Aril 18 8:30 – 10:00

## Grade 9:

PSAT 8/9 – April 10<sup>th</sup> Early dismissal upon completion

## Grade 10:

PSAT 10 – April 10<sup>th</sup> Early dismissal upon completion

## Grade 11:

SAT: April 10 8:00-12:00—11<sup>th</sup> grade students will be dismissed from school after completion of SAT testing.

Science: April 09 8:00-12:00—11<sup>th</sup> grade students will be dismissed from school after completion of CMAS testing.

\*Make-up testing will take place the week of April 23-27 for students that miss a testing session. Please make every effort to ensure your student is in school during the times they will be taking assessments. Makeup session are difficult to schedule and take students out of classes during valuable instructional time.