

Dear Family/Guardian:

This fall students in grades 4–8 will take the Smarter Balanced or Washington Access to Instruction and Measurement (WA–AIM) tests in math and English language arts. Students in grade 6 will also take the Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) or the WA–AIM science test. These tests are a brief check-in on student learning from the school year 202–21.

Students had limited in-person time in the classroom and likely experienced fewer opportunities to learn last school year. Last spring's Smarter Balanced and WCAS testing were postponed to fall as we prioritized critical in-person instruction time for the benefit of students, families, and district staff. The WA–AIM spring 2021 window was extended into fall to allow flexibility for teachers and students, based on student need.

Smarter Balanced and WCAS tests were shortened this fall to ensure that students and teachers would have as much time as possible at the start of school year 2021–22 to establish relationships, routines, and activities.

The results from the Smarter Balanced and WA–AIM math and/or English language arts tests provide a picture of whether students across the state are on track to be ready for career or college.

Knowing your student's achievement level (1 through 4) will provide an important piece of information. As the school year progresses, your student's teacher will be able to provide more information about your student's skills in English Language Arts (ELA), math, and science. Our school will have access to the Smarter Balanced and WCAS test scores a few days after students complete the tests. WA–AIM scores will be available in late January.

Our school is scheduled to take the tests on October 26, 27, 28.. You should have received an email with the dates last week, but we wanted to send additional information.

For more information about the tests, visit:

<https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/testing/state-testing-overview>, and click on the name of the test.

To try out an online [Smarter Balanced practice test or WCAS training test](#), visit:

<https://wa.portal.cambiumast.com/>.

For more information about the WA–AIM tests, visit:

<https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/testing/state-testing-overview/assessment-students-cognitive-disabilities-wa-aim>.

Please call or email 360-965-0900 or kim_necaise@msd25.org if you have questions about state testing.

Thank you for continuing to work with us to make sure your student is successful. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to better support you or them. We want your student to leave us with a solid foundation of skills and a future full of opportunities.

Sincerely,

Kim Necaise

Assistant Principal

Marysville Middle School