

State standardized Testing  
Parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Graders and 11<sup>th</sup> Graders

March 5, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The week following spring break (on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020), we will begin administering the state mandated standardized tests known as the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS), which assesses students' knowledge of state academic standards in science, English, language arts, and math. A testing schedule can be found on our school website. The test results do impact our school rating and accountability with the state. This year's test scores will be reflected in our school performance framework ratings that will come out at the start of the next school year.

As a parent, by state law and school policy, you do have the right to opt your student out of the state testing. The law only applies to state assessments and does not cover district or classroom assessments. If you are planning to opt your student out of the upcoming state tests please return the below form by March 12<sup>th</sup>, as we have been directed by the Colorado Department of Education to maintain documentation of parent opt-outs.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the Akron Schools at 345-2268.

Sincerely,



Brian Christensen, Superintendent

----- ***-Please return by Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> to the school office-*** -----

I am opting my student(s) out of taking the upcoming state mandated tests, CMAS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print: Student(s) Name)

**Parent Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

<b>Test Name and Purpose</b>	<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Date When Test Can Be Administered</b>	<b>Local or State</b>	<b>Number of Hours the Test Will Take</b>
ACCESS for English Language Learners- Purpose of the test is to monitor English Language Proficiency for students whose native language is something besides English	Kindergarten through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	January 13 <sup>th</sup> – February 14 <sup>th</sup> (testing window)	State	3-4 hours
CMAS Science- to measure levels of understanding in Science	5 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> through 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	April 6 <sup>th</sup> – April 24 <sup>th</sup> (testing window)	State	4 hours for each grade
CMAS Math- to measure school and student performance in math.	3 <sup>rd</sup> through 8 <sup>th</sup> grades	April 6 <sup>th</sup> – April 24 <sup>th</sup> (testing window)	State	3.25 hours for 3 <sup>rd</sup> thru 8 <sup>th</sup> grades
CMAS English Language Arts- top measure school and student performance in reading and writing.	3 <sup>rd</sup> through 8 <sup>th</sup> grades	April 6 <sup>th</sup> – April 24 <sup>th</sup> (testing window)	State	4.5 hours for 3 <sup>rd</sup> thru 5 <sup>th</sup> grades and 5.5 hours for 6 <sup>th</sup> thru 8 <sup>th</sup> grades
SAT test- is a curriculum- and standards-based educational and career planning tool that assesses students' academic readiness for college.	11 <sup>th</sup> grade	April 14 <sup>th</sup>	State	4 hours
PSAT- test is a college preparatory exam aligned to state academic standards and the 11 <sup>th</sup> grade curriculum-based college entrance exam.	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> grades	April 14 <sup>th</sup>	State	4 hours

WIDA– for ELL students to test their language barrier and to determine if services are needed.	Kindergarten through 12 <sup>th</sup> grades	September	State	30 minutes to 1 ½ hours- depending on the age of the student
NWEA- a standardized test that measures a student’s growth in the areas of reading, language arts, math and science 3 times a year and tracks a student’s growth in these areas so that teachers can adjust instruction and provide interventions.	Kindergarten through 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	August , December and May	Local	12 hours for all tests in grades 3-10 for the entire year
Dibels- reading comprehension and fluency test taken 3 times a year to track students.	Kindergarten through 6 <sup>th</sup> grade	September, December, and April/May	Local	10 minutes per student