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March 3, 2015

Dear Grade Eleven Student:

2015 EARLY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

This spring you will be participating in the new California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) in English language arts/literacy and mathematics. The Smarter Balanced assessment of the CAASPP System will determine your Early Assessment Program (EAP) Achievement Level and provide you with an indicator of your predicted readiness to take college-level English and mathematics courses when you begin college.

Knowing your Achievement Level at the end of the eleventh grade gives you the opportunity to use your senior year to improve your skills. Whether you plan to attend a California State University (CSU), one of the California Community College (CCC) campuses, or another institution of higher education, taking steps to prepare for college before you graduate is important to your future success. You will receive your Achievement Level results on your CAASPP Student Score Report during the summer. However, your school will have access to your Achievement Levels electronically within two to four weeks after the CAASPP examinations take place.

A significant benefit for students who perform at Achievement Level 4 on the CAASPP examinations is that you will be exempt from taking the CSU and participating CCC placement tests, and you will be able to move directly into college-level courses upon enrollment. Students who perform at Achievement Level 3 will be encouraged to take appropriate courses in their senior year in order to move directly to college-level courses. Additional information about the next steps for students who perform at Achievement Level 3 or below is on the CSU EAP Web page at www.csusuccess.org.

If you would like the CSU or participating CCC to receive your grade eleven English and/or mathematics CAASPP results, please select the “bubble” at the end of your exam. We strongly encourage you to release your results. These results will not have an effect on your admission to the CSU or the CCC. If you choose not to release your results and later decide you would like the CSU or CCC to receive your English and/or mathematics results, you will need to provide a copy of your CAASPP Student Score Report to that institution.

To learn more about the EAP and Smarter Balanced level results and to access college prep interactive tutorials, visit the CSU Success Web site at www.csusuccess.org.
If you have questions regarding the EAP and the Smarter Balanced Achievement levels,

please talk with your English and mathematics teachers, high school counselor, or career center director. You may also send an e-mail to the CSU Student Academic Support Office at eapmail@calstate.edu.

Sincerely,

Tom Torlakson
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California Department of Education

Timothy P. White
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