

March 4, 2016

Dear Schmitt families:

We will begin the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessments on March 15th. These assessments focus on the knowledge and skills our kids need for success in our global economy, including skills such as analytical thinking and the ability to solve complex problems. The CMAS assessments focus on four different content areas depending upon the grade your child is in:

- English Language Arts (ELA) and Math - 3rd, 4th, 5th grade
- Spanish Language Arts (CLSA) – 3rd and 4th grade Spanish speaking students
- Social Studies - 4th grade
- Science - 5th grade

We want to help parents and families with information to support student success during this time. These assessments will give our teachers critical information to help our students be on track for college and career readiness and help us understand whether our students have the necessary skills to succeed after high school.

Calendar: The calendar on the reverse side was created to communicate to you when the CMAS assessments are occurring. We ask parents and families to ensure their children get plenty of sleep and a healthy breakfast every day, but especially on assessment days. In addition, if there are doctor's appointments or other appointments that need to be made, we hope this calendar will help you to make those appointments on non-assessment days.

Volunteers: Please also note the days in which we cannot allow volunteers in certain floors of our building. This is to adhere to the ethics and other policies set forth by DPS and the State of Colorado to maintain a secure testing environment.

Attendance: We also want to communicate that all students should be in school *on-time, all day and every day*, regardless of whether assessments are occurring or not. Important teaching and learning happens in between testing, so it is imperative that students are here. Our expectations remain around vacations and we expect parents to continue to plan vacations around the DPS calendar.

Make-Ups: Students do best when they are in their classroom environment for testing. In the event that your child has to miss a test session, they will have to make up the test another time and will be pulled during their instructional time to do so. In addition, due to our teachers needing to teach during all non-testing days, our paraprofessionals are used to give make-ups, which pulls them from supporting the classroom. To prevent disruption to your child's and other student's day, please make sure that your child is at school every day and limit their absences to only when they are sick.

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 to help parents and families support their student during CMAS testing, located at standards.dpsk12.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you, and go Eagles!

Cindy Miller
Principal
Schmitt Elementary
Denver Public Schools

MARCH				
Monday March 14th	Tuesday March 15th	Wednesday March 16th	Thursday March 17th	Friday March 18th
No testing	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS
NO TESTING TODAY	CMAS: 3 rd , 4 th and 5 th ELA, Unit 1	CMAS: 3 rd , 4 th and 5 th ELA, Unit 2	CMAS: 3 rd , 4 th and 5 th ELA, Unit 3	MAKE-UP TESTING TODAY
Monday March 21st	Tuesday March 22nd	DAY of the WEEK DATE	DAY of the WEEK DATE	DAY of the WEEK DATE
No testing	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS
NO TESTING TODAY	CMAS: 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Math, Unit 1	CMAS: 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Math, Unit 2	CMAS: 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Math, Unit 3	CMAS: 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Math, Unit 4

Spring Break

APRIL				
Monday April 4 th	Tuesday April 5 th	Wednesday April 6 th	Thursday April 7 th	Friday April 8 th
NO TESTING TODAY	CMAS ELA & Math makeups	CMAS ELA & Math makeups	CMAS ELA & Math makeups	CMAS ELA & Math makeups
Monday April 11 th	Tuesday April 12 th	Wednesday April 13 th	Thursday April 14 th	Friday April 15 th
NO SCHOOL	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS	NO VOLUNTEERS UPSTAIRS
	CMAS Social Studies- 4 th Grade Unit 1	CMAS Social Studies- 4 th Grade Unit 2 CMAS Science- 5 th Grade Unit 1	CMAS Social Studies- 4 th Grade Unit 3 CMAS Science- 5 th Grade Unit 2	MAKE-UP TESTING TODAY CMAS Science- 5 th Grade Unit 2