

## Dear City View Parents & Guardians,

As we move into spring, state testing season is upon us. We want to take a moment to share important information about this year's state assessments and how you can support your student's success.

### Why State Testing Matters

All public schools are required to administer state achievement tests to maintain federal funding. More importantly, these assessments provide valuable feedback that helps teachers tailor instruction and ensure students are on track for college and career readiness.

At City View, we see testing as an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning, challenge themselves, and develop perseverance. While standardized tests are only one measure of a student's progress, they help us better understand strengths and areas for growth.

### What to Expect

- **Who Takes the Test?**
  - The **Smarter Balanced Assessment** is given to students in **grades 3-8** for English Language Arts and Math.
  - Students in **grades 5 and 8** also take a Science assessment.
- **Test Format:**
  - The assessments are computer-based and untimed, allowing students to work at their own pace.
- **Testing Window:**
  - City View will administer the tests in **April and May**. Teachers will provide specific schedules and preparation resources in advance.

### How You Can Support Your Child

To help your student feel confident and prepared, we encourage the following:

- ✓ **Mark testing days** on your calendar so your student arrives on time and ready.
- ✓ **Practice with sample tests** ([OAKS Practice Test](#)).
- ✓ **Ensure a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast** on testing days.
- ✓ **Encourage a positive mindset** – remind them to do their best and not stress.
- ✓ **Reach out to teachers** with any concerns or questions.

### Understanding Test Results

While no single test can fully capture a student's abilities, these results provide a snapshot of their strengths and areas for growth. They also help City View make data-driven decisions to equitably distribute resources and improve student learning.

## Opt-Out Information

Oregon law allows families to opt out of testing. If you wish to do so, please submit the opt-out form found on our website:

- [3rd to 8th Language and Math Opt-Out](#)
- [5th & 8th Science Opt-Out](#)

We appreciate your partnership in ensuring that all students have the support they need to succeed. If you have general questions or would like more information, please refer to the attached fact sheet from the Oregon Department of Education or contact your child's teacher.

**Sincerely,**

Caitlin Klenz  
Executive Director