



# Charleston Elementary School

West Charleston, VT 05872

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Chris Lawson, Principal

<https://ces.ncsuvt.org>

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CES Families,

This year, Vermont will be implementing the Vermont Comprehensive Assessment Program (VTCAP) provided by COGNIA for the second time. These assessments replace the Smarter Balanced Assessment and Vermont Science Assessment. The VTCAP is administered annually in the spring to students in grades 3 through 9 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics; and to students in grades 5, 8, and 11 in Science. The ELA and Mathematics assessments are designed to measure students' mastery of the Common Core State Standards. The Science assessments are designed to measure students' mastery of the Next Generation Science Standards. The VTCAP assessments are computer-adaptive with a variety of accessibility features available to students.

Charleston students in grades 3-8 will begin the VTCAP assessment the week of March 25 with the goal of the whole school being completed by the week of April 12. The testing will be administered in phases to avoid testing fatigue. The March 25th week will complete the science assessment for grades 5 and 8. The week of April 1 students will complete the ELA portion of the assessment. The week of April 8th, students will complete the Mathematics portion of the assessment. ELA and Math will be completed on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30AM to 10AM. For other questions about testing, please contact your child's homeroom teacher, Teresa Bolton, or Chris Lawson.

Families can help by discussing the importance of doing their best on this assessment, that they are at school on time (7:45AM), and ensuring they are getting a good night's sleep. Students who arrive after the assessment start time will not be able to enter the class until the assessment block has concluded. Therefore, students late to the assessment will be required to complete the assessment at a later time/date--missing out on other classes.

After students have completed testing, Individual Student Reports will be sent to families as soon as available--they are released by the state typically over the summer. These reports provide information on what your student(s) learned in relation to the statewide academic standards. When reviewing test scores, it is important to consider that these tests provide a broad overview of demonstrated learning and that results are most useful when viewed in the context of other information gathered by the teacher and the school. The primary purpose of our testing program is to provide families and school leaders with an increased understanding of how teaching and learning is taking place and how students' needs are being met.

Please note that Vermont's test delivery system uses state-of-the-art security features that protect your students' privacy and adhere to all federal and state confidentiality regulations.

To learn more about VTCAP, please visit [Vermont Help & Support \(cognia.org\)](https://cognia.org). If you have any questions, please contact me, Teresa Bolton, or your child's teacher directly.

With the Utmost Respect,

Chris Lawson, Principal