Students: Get Ready for Next-Generation Assessments!

LAUSD is participating in a “practice field test” of the Smarter Balanced Assessments this spring. This practice run will help us prepare for the full launch in 2014-15.

WHAT: What are these new assessments?
The Smarter Balanced Assessments are new assessments that will be given to test the knowledge of the Common Core State Standards. The “practice field test” is a trial run that will help us make sure we are prepared for the full launch.

WHO: Which LAUSD students will be taking the practice field test?
Grades 3-8, Grade 11 and some 9th and 10th Grade Students.

WHEN: When will LAUSD participate in the practice field test of the assessments?
The practice field test will take place during a six-week window from April 1 - May 16. Your school will schedule your practice field test some time during this window.
*Note: Bell Senior High School will take the field test sometime during March 18-June 6, due to their year-round calendar.

WHY: Why do LAUSD students need to participate in this practice field test?
This practice run helps us make sure everything runs smoothly before the full launch 2014-15. It also provides information to the test creators to make sure the test is accurate and fair.

HOW: How will students take the practice field test?
Students will take the practice field test, and the full assessments in 2014-15, on electronic devices, such as a tablet or computer. No more filling in bubbles with pencils!

Check out the practice test at: https://sbacpt.tds.airast.org/student/
Student Test-Taking Tips

Before the test:
✓ Mark the testing day(s) on your calendar.
✓ Get enough sleep the night before the test. Your brain and body need rest to perform at their best!
✓ Eat a healthy breakfast the morning of the test to ensure your brain is working at its best.
✓ Wake up early and get to school on time the morning of the test.
✓ When getting ready, wear comfortable clothing appropriate for the day’s weather.

During the test:
✓ Relax and do your best.
✓ Have a positive attitude – this goes a long way toward being successful.
✓ Read and pay careful attention to all directions.
✓ Read each passage and accompanying questions thoroughly.
✓ Keep your eyes focused on your own device.
✓ Don't change an answer unless absolutely necessary. Your first choice is usually correct.
✓ Don't get upset or frustrated if stuck on a question. Reread the question again, and then solve it as best you can. Take your best guess if need be.
✓ Use the process of elimination to help you choose the correct answer in multiple-choice questions.
✓ Don't worry if others finish before you. Instead, focus on the test in front of you.
✓ Go back and review your answers before completing the test. Make sure that you didn't make any careless mistakes.