

REPORTER

A Newsletter for Parents and Community

April 09



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The Sulphur Springs District
Office is located at 27000 Weyerhaeuser
Way, Canyon Country, CA 91351-4947.
Board of Trustees Meetings are held on the
2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month
at 7:30 P.M.

The Public is invited!
Visit our Web Page at
www.sssd.k12.ca.us

Going the Distance - Making STAR Results Count

It is that time again when students in grades 2 – 6 take part in the state testing program, STAR (Standardized Testing and Reporting). The purpose of the STAR program is to measure how well students are learning the knowledge and skills identified in their grade level California content standards. The content standards describe what students at each grade level should know and be able to do in English-language arts, mathematics, and science. STAR tests are administered between April 20th and May 18th, 2009.



Students with significant learning disabilities take either the CMA (California Modified Assessment) or the CAPA (California Alternate Performance Assessment). The CMA was new last year. This year it will be administered to students in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 who have an active IEP and have taken the California Standards Tests in previous years. The CMA is based on modified California Content Standards. The CAPA is an individually administered test. Students are directed to respond to a question or to perform a task. The examiner observes and records the student's response. The CMA and CAPA tests replace the STAR California Standards Tests (CST).

Spanish speaking students who have been in the United States less than 12 months take the STS, Spanish Test of Skills. This test assesses the students' knowledge of the content standards and is given in Spanish. Students taking the STS must also take the STAR CST tests.

The tests in the STAR program ensure that information about the academic achievement of all students is collected on a regular basis. This information is important in communicating with parents about their child's progress, as a tool for improving student learning, and in evaluating the instructional program within a district and across the state.

Students in grades 2 – 6 will take the CST (California Standards Test) in English/language arts and mathematics. Fifth grade students will take a CST test in science while 4th grade students take the State Writing test. The CSTs are multiple-choice tests. All of the STAR tests are aligned to the California content standards. Samples of the STAR released test questions for English/Language Arts, mathematics and science may be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/resources.asp>

English Language Learner Students Honored for English Achievement!

On Wednesday, March 25th sixty-seven Sulphur Springs School District students were recognized for their academic achievement at our Second Annual ESTRELLA Awards. This is an increase of seventeen students over the fifty students recognized last year. The celebration took place at Valley View Community School.

There are 1,353 English Learner students in the Sulphur Springs School District. These students speak thirty languages other than English and come from twenty-eight different countries all over the world. In addition, there are 531 students throughout the district that came to our schools speaking a language other than English and were proficient in English. Also, 195 students that were considered as English Learners when they began school in the Sulphur Springs School District have been redesignated as “Fluent English Proficient.”

Students speaking a language other than English make up 2,079 of the 5,785 students, or thirty-five percent of the students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade. English Learner students are placed in classes with teachers that have a special authorization to teach second language students. These students receive thirty minutes a day of instruction in English Language Development. It can take second language students several years to become proficient in English.



The sixty-seven students in grades third through sixth, redesignated as “Fluent English Proficient,” entered the Sulphur Springs District speaking a language other than English. Through their hard work, they have achieved an advanced level on the CELDT (California English Language Development Test), as well as a proficient or advanced level on the California Standards Test given every spring to all students in grades second through sixth. In their classrooms, they are able to keep up with their English-speaking peers academically. We are proud of their hard work in achieving English proficiency and celebrate their success. These students also received certificates from Santa Clarita Lanes, Mountasia, and McDonalds acknowledging their success.

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There will be **no Academic Academy** held this summer due to budget cuts of programs at the state level. If you would like to have your child review their grade level curriculum and the content standards covered during the school year, please sign up at your child's school for the Curriculum Correspondence Program. This provides 6 weeks of review work in language arts and mathematics.

JULY 2009						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Board Approved 3/25/09

**SULPHUR SPRINGS
SCHOOL DISTRICT
2009 – 2010**

August
10 – New Staff Orientation
11/12 – Orientation/Professional
Development Day #1 / Work Day
13 – School Begins

JANUARY 2010						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

AUGUST 2009						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

September
7 – Labor Day/ Holiday
28 – October 2 – Fall Break

October
23 – Professional Development Day #2
No School for Students

November
6 – Minimum Day
11 – Veteran's Day / Holiday
19/20 – Parent Conferences
26/27 – Thanksgiving

FEBRUARY 2010						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

SEPTEMBER 2009						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December
21 – Jan. 8 – Winter Break

January
18 – Martin Luther King Day/Holiday

February
12/15 – President's Day / Holiday
26 – Minimum Day

MARCH 2010						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

OCTOBER 2009						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

March
11/12 – Parent Conferences

April
5-9 Spring Break

May
21 – Professional Development Day #3
No School for Students
28 – Minimum Day

31 – Memorial / Holiday

APRIL 2010						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

NOVEMBER 2009						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

June
11 – Last Day of School (Minimum Day)

Professional Development Days
(No School for Students)

Holidays/Vacation Breaks

Minimum Days
(also noted with red numbers)

Parent Teacher Conferences

MAY 2010						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

DECEMBER 2009						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE 2010						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Kindergarten Round Up May 4-8, 2009

Children born on or before December 2, 2004, are eligible for Kindergarten registration during the week of May 4th from 9-11:30 AM and 1 – 3 PM. Please bring your child’s birth certificate, proof of District residency (mortgage/rental receipt, driver’s license or current utility bill) and immunization records to your home school of residence, where you will be able to complete the necessary paperwork to register your child for Kindergarten for the 2009/2010 school year. At time of publication, both Golden Oak Community School and Sulphur Springs Community School are offering all-day Kindergarten programs. The remaining sites will offer traditional AM/PM Kindergarten programs.



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Comment Card

Please mail this comment card to our District Office or simply fax to (661) 252-6849
The Sulphur Springs School District is very interested in knowing your thoughts regarding any of the topics we've covered in this newsletter or any other questions or ideas that you may have.



(Optional) Contact name: _____ Phone () _____