



## Weld RE-9 School District

Highland Schools 210 W. First Street P.O. Box 68 Ault, Colorado 80610 (970) 834-1345

### **HB 15-1323 requires that school districts notify parents of the following:**

- Weld RE9 will administer the CMAS English/Language Arts (ELA) & Math assessments (grades 3-8) as well as the Colorado Science assessment (grades 5, 8 and 11). We will also be administering the PSAT to freshmen and sophomores as well as the SAT to juniors. The WIDA assessment will be administered to all ELL students.
  - CMAS ELA and Math assessments, as well as the WIDA assessment, are required to be administered by Federal Law
  - CMAS science and social studies, as well as the PSAT 9, PSAT 10 and SAT, are required by Colorado Law.
- Each CMAS assessed content area will take approximately six hours to complete. This includes actual testing time as well pre and post assessment procedures.
- All PSAT and SAT assessments are approximately three hours in length.
- All assessments are designed to measure student's knowledge and understanding of the Colorado Academic Standards, as well as student's level of college and career readiness.
- The Weld RE9 School District uses the results of all assessments for the following reasons:
  - Achievement comparison to school districts with similar demographics as well the state as a whole.
  - To determine areas of strength and areas of need.
  - As a portion of teacher's evaluation.
  - To measure student's longitudinal growth.
  - Results are a significant factor in school and district accreditation as well as school improvement planning.
- HB 15-1323 provides parents the option to opt their child out of any or all of the above listed standardized assessments.
  - Students will not be penalized, or lose opportunity, if parents opt their child(ren) out.
  - It is unethical for the School District to encourage parents to opt their child(ren) out of standardized testing.
  - It is also unethical for the School District to pressure students and parents to participate in standardized testing.

If considering opting your son or daughter out, please sign and return the form at the end of this document. Opt-out forms are also available at building offices and can also be printed from the District website.

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>CMAS English Language Arts &amp; Math</b>
<b>Why do we give this assessment?</b>	Administration of this assessment is required by federal and state law for all students grades 3-8.
<b>Grade Level(s) Assessed</b>	Grades 3-8
<b>Administration Time</b>	Approximately 8 hours spread out over a calendar week. There are six test sessions; each session is between 50 and 90 minutes
<b>Availability of Results</b>	Individual student results are typically available in mid-August the following school year. School and District level results are generally available in late-August the following school year.
<b>District Use of Data</b>	The data received is used primarily for information and comparison purposes. The data is not received early enough, nor is the data detailed enough to assist in class placement and/or instructional decisions. The data does allow for comparison with other school districts across the state and nation.
<b>Weld RE9 Recommendation</b>	Per State Statute, the School District is not permitted to make a recommendation one way or the other; only to provide parents with the information above.

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>CMAS Science &amp; Social Studies</b>
<b>Why do we give this assessment?</b>	Federal Law requires that a science assessment be administered once in elementary school, once in middle school, and once in high school. Social studies is not required by Federal Law, but is by State Statute
<b>Grade Level(s) Assessed</b>	Science: Grades 5, 8, & 11 Social Studies: Grades 4 & 7 on a sampling basis
<b>Administration Time</b>	Approximately three one hour sessions
<b>Availability of Results</b>	Individual student results are typically available in mid-August the following school year. School and District level results are generally available in late-August the following school year.
<b>District Use of Data</b>	The data received is used primarily for information and comparison purposes. The data is not received early enough, nor is the data detailed enough to assist in class placement and/or instructional decisions. The data does allow for comparison with other school districts across the state.
<b>Weld RE9 Recommendation</b>	Per State Statute, the School District is not permitted to make a recommendation one way or the other; only to provide parents with the information above.

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>PSAT 9</b>
<b>Why do we give this assessment?</b>	Administration of this assessment is required by Colorado Statute
<b>Grade Level(s) Assessed</b>	Grades 9
<b>Administration Time</b>	Approximately three hours
<b>Availability of Results</b>	Typically takes three months to get assessment results.
<b>District Use of Data</b>	There are multiple programs available to the District that allow for student results to be used to develop individualized curriculum.
<b>Weld RE9 Recommendation</b>	Per State Statute, the School District is not permitted to make a recommendation one way or the other; only to provide parents with the information above.

<b>Assessment</b>	<b>PSAT 10</b>
<b>Why do we give this assessment?</b>	Administration of this assessment is required by Colorado Statute
<b>Grade Level(s) Assessed</b>	Grade 10
<b>Administration Time</b>	Approximately three hours
<b>Availability of Results</b>	Typically takes about three months
<b>District Use of Data</b>	There are multiple programs available to the district that allow for student results to be used to develop individualized curriculum. Student scores are very valuable for future college and/or career planning.
<b>Weld RE9 Recommendation</b>	Per State Statute, the School District is not permitted to make a recommendation one way or the other; only to provide parents with the information above.

Assessment	<b>SAT</b>
Why do we give this assessment?	Administration of this assessment is required by Colorado Statute
Grade Level(s) Assessed	Grade 11
Administration Time	Approximately three hours
Availability of Results	Typically takes about three months to get assessment results
District Use of Data	Student scores are essential for college admission and/or career readiness and placement programs.
Weld RE9 Recommendation	Per State Statute, the School District is not permitted to make a recommendation one way or the other; only to provide parents with the information above.

**\*\*Weld RE9 School District administers the NWEA MAPS Assessment to all students grades K-11. The MAPS assessment is not required by any legislative body; rather it is part of the instructional plan in the District. This is the best assessment we are aware of to monitor student progress, give instant results, drive instructional decisions, and assist in class placement. MAPS is critical for us to make good instructional decisions for your child(ren).**

**\*\*The School District will provide enrichment instructional activities for all students who will not be taking state assessments. The curriculum will be for the purpose of enrichment; it will not be graded. Parents will have the option to keep their child(ren) home without consequence if they choose. However, students will not be allowed to sign themselves out during the school day; parents will have to come to the school to sign out and pick their child up in order for the child to leave campus.**



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### Weld RE-9 Standardized Testing Parent Opt-out Form

As a parent/guardian, I understand I have the option to opt my child(ren) out of State assessments. By submitting this form, I am exercising this option.

I have decided to opt my child out of the following assessment(s):

*Please select all that apply*

- CMAS English Language Arts Assessment (Grades 3-8)
- CMAS Math Assessment (Grades 3-8)
- CMAS Science Assessment (5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- PSAT 9
- PSAT 10
- SAT (Juniors)

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Grade: \_\_\_\_\_