

California High School Exit Exam- CAHSEE

Joaquin Valdez- CAHSEE Counselor

jqvaldez@paramount.k12.ca.us

Voice: 562-602-6068

Fax: 562-602-6089

Purpose: The primary purpose of the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) is to significantly improve pupil achievement in public high schools and to ensure that pupils who graduate from public high schools can demonstrate grade level competency in reading, writing, and mathematics. The CAHSEE helps identify students who are not developing skills that are essential for life after high school and encourages districts to give these students the attention and resources needed to help students achieve these skills during their high school years. All California public school students must satisfy the CAHSEE requirement, as well as all other state and local requirements, in order to receive a high school diploma. The CAHSEE requirement can be satisfied by passing the exam or, for students with disabilities, receiving a local waiver pursuant to Education Code Section 60851(c), or receiving an exemption pursuant to Education Code sections 60852.3 or 60852.4.

Content: The CAHSEE has two parts: English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The ELA part addresses state content standards through grade ten. In reading, this includes vocabulary, decoding, comprehension, and analysis of information and literary texts. In writing, this covers writing strategies, applications, and the conventions of English (e.g. grammar, spelling, and punctuation). The mathematics part of the CAHSEE addresses state standards in grades six and seven and Algebra I. The exam includes statistics, data analysis and probability, number sense, measurement and geometry, mathematical reasoning, and algebra. Students are also asked to demonstrate a strong foundation in computation and arithmetic, including working with decimals, fractions, and percents.

For more information, please click on the link: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/index.asp>

The CAHSEE administration dates for the 2007-2008 school year are as follows:

English Language Arts

Tuesday

November 06, 2007

February 05, 2008

March 11, 2008

May 06, 2008

July 29, 2008*

11th and 12th Grade ONLY

12th Grade ONLY

10th Grade ONLY

11th and 12th Grade ONLY

Mathematics

Wednesday

November 07, 2007

February 06, 2008

March 12, 2008

May 07, 2008

July 30, 2008*

*The July 29 and 30 exam dates are only for those seniors that have not met the CAHSEE requirement towards graduation.

In preparation for the CAHSEE, we are implementing the following:

- **Every 10th grade** student prepares for the test by using the book Measuring Up in his/her Language Arts 2 classes.
- **All 10th grade** students receive a copy of the CAHSEE Study Guide in their Language Arts 2 class.
- **10th grade** students attend a special assembly during their first semester in a Language Arts 2 class.
- **10th grade** students enrolled in **Literacy Enhancement/ELD 5** and/or **Math Support (10)** are building their skills in preparation for the CAHSEE using a variety of materials.
- **11th grade** students also have the opportunity of enrolling in a Literacy Enhancement/ELD5 class to assist them in preparing for the ELA CAHSEE and Math Enhancement for the Math CAHSEE.
- **12th grade** students can participate in our Kaplan “Pirate After School Academy” which is tailored to meet the CAHSEE standards.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: What are Support Classes (Math and Literacy Enhancement, Math Support and ELD5)?

A: Support Classes are meant to build skills to improve student performance on the CAHSEE and STAR test.

Q: Why are students placed in Support Classes?

A: Students are placed in Support Classes because they scored poorly on the STAR Math, STAR Language Arts, and CAHSEE tests.

Q: Who enrolls in Support Classes?

A: Both 10th and 11th grade students are enrolled in Support Classes.

Q: How long must students remain in Support Classes?

A: Students in grades 9th through 11th will remain in Support Classes until they have passed the CAHSEE.

Q: How many times can a student take the CAHSEE?

A: The number of opportunities a student can take the CAHSEE is based on grade level. The following outlines the opportunities a student has to take the CAHSEE:

Grade 12: Students, who have not passed, may take the CAHSEE up to three (3) times per school year for the part(s) of the exam not previously passed.

Grade 11: Students, who have not passed, may take the CAHSEE up to two (2) times per school year for the part(s) of the exam not previously passed.

Grade 10: Students take the exam for the first time and may only take it once (1) in grade ten.