



Little Cypress-Mauriceville Consolidated Independent School District

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Date: August 2018

Dear Parents:

This letter is to inform you of the grade advancement requirements of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) testing program, including the Texas Student Success Initiative (SSI), and graduation requirements. The purpose of this initiative is to ensure that every student achieves the academic progress necessary to show a sufficient understanding of the knowledge and skills taught and tested at each grade level.

The STAAR testing program, which will be administered during the 2018-2019 school year, currently includes the following state-mandated exams:

STAAR Grades 3-8:

- Grade 3 mathematics, reading
- Grade 4 mathematics, reading, writing
- Grade 5 mathematics, reading, science
- Grade 6 mathematics, reading
- Grade 7 mathematics, reading, writing
- Grade 8 mathematics, reading, science, social studies

High School STAAR End-of-Course:

English I, English II, Biology, U.S. History, Algebra I

SSI requires students in grade 5 and grade 8 to meet Satisfactory Achievement (Approaches, Meets, Masters) on STAAR exams in mathematics and reading before being promoted to the next grade level. In addition, students must fulfill the requirements of Senate Bill 463 by passing a minimum of three STAAR End-of-Course exams to receive a Texas high school diploma. The provisions related to Senate Bill 463 will expire on September 1, 2019.

Testing requirements are part of an overall system of support for student academic achievement. This system includes:

- evaluation of student needs and academic support;
- ongoing evaluation of student progress during the school year with assistance provided to all students with identified academic weaknesses;
- three opportunities to pass the state assessments in grades 5 and 8;
- multiple opportunities to pass the End-of-Course assessments;
- additional instruction after each administration for students who do not meet the passing standard on a subject-area exam;
- An instructional plan for every student.

The District recognizes and supports the important role parents play in the education of their children. We look forward to working with you to help your child succeed. Please contact your child's principal or counselor if you have questions about the STAAR testing program. If you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at 409-883-2232.

Sincerely,

Directors of Curriculum and Instruction