



HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT Office of Curriculum & Instruction

200 W. Willow St., Harrisburg, SD 57032 (K-5th Grade)
1300 W. Willow St., Harrisburg, SD 57032 (6th -12th Grade)

Phone: 605-743-2567 FAX: 605-743-2569

Dr. Tanya Rasmussen, K-5 Curriculum Director Ext 3023 tanya.rasmussen@k12.sd.us
Dr. Michael Amolins, 6-12 Curriculum Director Ext 6180 michael.amolins@k12.sd.us

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Enclosed you will find a summary of your student's results on the Smarter Balanced assessments in the subject areas of English language arts and math. Results from the South Dakota Science Assessment, which is given in grades 5, 8 and 11, are not yet available and will be distributed after the reporting process is completed by the South Dakota Department of Education.

One of the important features of the Smarter Balanced assessments is that they can help us determine whether your child is on track for college and career readiness. Much like an annual medical check-up, the assessments allow you, and your child's teachers, to make informed decisions regarding any potential issues that may arise in your child's education.

Here's what you need to know about the Smarter Balanced and South Dakota Science reports:

- There are two separate Smarter Balanced reports: One for English-language arts and one for math. If your child is in grades 5, 8, or 11, there is a third report for the South Dakota Science Assessment.
- Each report contains your student's scale score, as well as an average score for the school and district for the particular test and grade. This gives you some sense of how your child is performing compared to other students, but please understand that this is only a small piece of the puzzle. A measure of a child's ability should not and is not based on a single assessment.
- The ELA and math reports contain a breakdown of how your child performed in specific areas, called "claims." With each claim, you will see a symbol indicating whether performance was below, at, or above the standard for that grade and subject. This breakdown helps us identify areas of strength and need.
- When results become available, the score report for the South Dakota Science Assessment will provide your child's scale score, achievement level, and a description of the achievement level relative to his or her performance on the grade 5, 8, or 11 science exam.

Thank you for the privilege of educating your child. Please contact us if you have any questions about this report, or any other aspect of your child's education.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Amolins
6-12 Curriculum Director
K-12 Assessment Coordinator
Harrisburg School District