



PALISADES

CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

STATE AND PCHS TESTING/ASSESSMENT POLICY

As a California public charter school, PCHS administers all California state-mandated assessments in the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). In addition to California state-mandated assessments in the CAASPP, PCHS has selected and developed other assessments designed to provide students, parents/guardians, and the school with feedback on student performance. The school uses the results of these assessments to make adjustments to the instructional program to ensure that students are adequately prepared for success in college and careers. These assessments may include department-created writing prompts, department-created multiple-choice assessments, computer-based assessments, and third-party standardized assessments. The selection and development of the PCHS assessments is a local decision made by the PCHS instructional departments. Careful consideration is given to the purpose of these assessments, the usefulness of the results, and the instructional time necessary for the administration of the tests. The administration and testing personnel determine the assessment dates and bell schedule.

There are no grades associated with any assessment in the CAASPP program. However, PCHS-developed or selected assessments are often graded, and students who do not participate in PCHS-selected or developed assessments may receive a grade indicating lack of participation and may lose opportunities to participate in optional school activities or academic honor federations and societies.

All students must fully participate in PCHS assessments in their 9th-, 10th- and 11th-grade years to be eligible to participate in optional activities such as senior activities, school extracurricular activities, school athletics, and academic honor federations and societies. Students who clearly disregard an assessment as determined by the testing coordinator or test proctor will be regarded as having refused to comply with the testing requirement and may be subject to loss of senior activities, school extracurricular activities, school athletics, and academic honor federations and societies. For example: If the student does not complete the English writing assessment in the 9th grade, he/she/they may be ineligible for student activities during his/her/their 10th-grade year. Eligibility will be reinstated for the 11th-grade year if the student sits for all assessments in his/her/their 10th-grade year. For information about this policy, contact the Director of Academic Achievement.

Per California Education Code 60615, parents and guardians have the right to exempt their child from participating in the CAASPP program. California Education Code 60615 reads as follows: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a parent's or guardian's written request to school officials to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of the assessments administered pursuant to this chapter shall be granted."

California Education Code 60615 applies only to state-mandated assessments in the CAASPP program. The CAASPP program includes the grade 11 Smarter Balanced Assessments in ELA and Mathematics, CAASPP interim assessments, and the California Science Test. Students not participating in the CAASPP program are expected to be in attendance at school during the testing periods each day, and they will be required to complete an alternative school assessment during these periods.

Presented: January 24, 2023

Approved: