



# A Valuable Measure of Student Achievement: THE IDAHO STANDARDS ACHIEVEMENT TESTS BY SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT

## ALL STUDENTS PREPARED FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

In 2011, Idaho adopted higher K-12 standards in English Language Arts and Math to ensure all students move from grade to grade with the academic knowledge and skills necessary for success beyond high school.

Because we raised the bar for what we expect students to know and be able to do, we have also changed the way we measure student progress through our state tests, known as the Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT) by Smarter Balanced (SBAC).

# The Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT) by Smarter Balanced (SBAC) replaced Our Previous Test and is Better

The ISAT by SBAC test is aligned to the Idaho Core State Standards, and provides a more accurate indicator of whether students are on track for the next grade level and on the path to success after high school. Instead of multiple choice questions, students are tested on critical thinking and problem-solving – skills they'll need in the workplace.

### The new ISAT by SBAC Test Provides Meaningful Information

These new ISAT by SBAC test results provide a more detailed picture of student learning by providing specific information on which skills students have mastered and where they need additional support. They also help ensure that students are on track for the next grade and eventually, college and career.

#### **Participation in Annual Assessments Matters**

While no single test can give a complete picture of achievement, when combined with student grades and teacher reports, annual assessments provide important information about student progress.

Having your child take the statewide tests provides policy makers and educators with information about what educational approaches are working and where additional resources are needed.

Our district is committed to fewer, fairer and better tests for all students.

#### **IDAHO STATE TEST**

- Challenges your child to think critically & solve realworld problems.
- Goes beyond multiple
  choice and ask your child to explain his or her answers.
- Provides accurate information on whether your child is on track.
- Provides one measure of your child's academic success.
- Identifies low and high performing schools that need supports to improve or to share best practices with others.

#### **STAY INFORMED**

Your child's teacher can provide more information about his/her academic performance.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

- May 20, 2016 Parent Night
- April 4 May 20, 2016 Spring Testing Window