



Smarter Balanced Assessment Testing Update

Arcadia is getting ready for the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) state testing for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. Each of the grade levels above tests in language arts and math, with 5th grade testing in science, too. The testing will take place between May 2nd through May 13th at different times during the day allowing for breaks and other subjects to be taught- as well as so we don't burn out students on testing. K-2 students do not take the SBA test.

This testing is one measure that gives teachers and administrators a snapshot of where students are at and helps with our academic planning moving forward.

Regarding student achievement, the state has created "Achievement level descriptors" (ALDs). As written by the state, these "describe the knowledge, skills, and processes that students demonstrate on state tests at predetermined levels of achievement for each tested grade level." These ALDs are linked on our Title 1 page: www.dpsd.org/title-1/ under the "notifications and policy" heading.

In general, the language arts and math tests have an adaptive short answer and multiple choice component, as well as a multi-step performance task (essay for ELA and multi-step word problem for math). Science is multiple choice and short answer.

Deer Park Elementary Family Engagement Dates

We are back to being able to host our family engagement nights in-person and in-building. Yes!!

These nights are a great way to bring families, students, and staff together to support student learning in a connected environment to build community, which has always been a strength of Deer Park.

DPE is planning a "Reading with Reptiles" Night on May 20th (time is still to be determined).

Arcadia is still putting the finishing touches on their parent and family engagement night, but it is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 26th (time is still to be determined). Arcadia is developing their night around helping students maintain their skills over the summer and be prepared for the following grade level.

Both schools will soon be sending more specific information home about each event.





Curriculum Used at Deer Park

Deer Park Elementary uses the following core curricula:

- English Language Arts: Wonders
- Math: Ready Math
- Social Studies: MyWorld
- Science: Mystery Science

Arcadia uses the following core curricula:

- English Language Arts: Wonders
- Math: Eureka
- Social Studies: MyWorld
- Science: Mystery Science

In addition to these core curricula, both schools use a combination of iReady and AIMSweb as a screener, progress monitor data point, and as a diagnostic. If you have questions about the curriculum at your school, please contact the building principal. Currently, we are also in a language arts curriculum adoption; the new ELA curriculum will roll out next year if all goes smooth.

School Parent & Family Engagement Plans

In addition to a school improvement plan and Title 1 School-Wide Plan, we also have a parent and family engagement plan at each school. These are reviewed annually by parents and/or family members of students that attend DPE or Arcadia, though recommendations or ideas can always be submitted to our Title 1 Director, Steve Hitchcock (contact information on the back of this page). These plans were shared and available during recent PTO and Coffee Hour meetings, and are also located on our website www.dpsd.org/title-1. As a requirement of the Title 1 program, these documents help to outline how each school works to partner with families, including events like We Heart Deer Park, conferences, and family academic nights/activities.

Please Share Your Thoughts

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