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October 28, 2022

Dear GJUESD Families,

The 2022 state's standardized test scores, Smarter Balanced, were released this week. Students in grades 3-8 take the Smarter Balanced assessments in English language arts and math each spring. Due to the pandemic and school closures, students were not required to take these assessments since spring 2019. The state and many educational leaders are comparing the 2019 scores to scores in 2022. *"The results of the different tests cannot be compared, but point to the same conclusion: COVID severely set back progress nationally and in California, indicating it will take extra resources and attention, and probably several years, to recover from the impact."* (EdSource)

Links to test results: Smarter Balanced Test Results and State Testing Website

How did students in GJUESD perform on these state tests? Our students did as well as the state in English language arts and outperformed the state in math. The tables below show the change in percentage of students meeting or exceeding state standards. Given the teaching and learning conditions for students and staff during the pandemic; we are optimistic about these test scores. We attribute these results to the dedicated, caring teachers and support staff across our district.

How are we supporting student learning loss? We still have a lot of work to get students performing higher than pre-pandemic levels. Some of our actions to meet our growth goals include:

- Social and emotional support for students.
- Expanding learning opportunities after school.
- Targeted small group instruction for acceleration and intervention.
- Data analysis of local and common assessments that support planning and instruction.
- Strengthening teacher collaboration and support through Professional Learning Communities.
- Professional learning opportunities for teachers and support staff.
- Attracting and retaining high quality staff.

Parent/teacher conferences are the week of November 28th. It is very important for parents/guardians to attend these conferences. Students make growth when families and schools work together as a team. Our <u>November Newsletter</u> suggests tips for parents before, during, and after conferences.

| State/District/School | English: Standard Met or Exceeded 2019 | English: Standard Met or Exceeded 2022 | English: Percentage Change |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|
| State of California | 50.87% | 47.06% | -3.81% |
| Galt Joint Union Elementary School | 50.13% | 46.99% | -3.14% |
| McCaffrey Middle | 49.05% | 51.41% | +2.36% |
| Marengo Ranch Elementary | 55.25% | 53.7% | -1.55% |
| River Oaks Elementary | 57.14% | 48.21% | -8.93% |
| Lake Canyon Elementary | 56.23% | 48.85% | -7.38% |
| Valley Oaks Elementary | 36.94% | 31.06% | -5.88% |
| Greer Elementary | 49.23% | 41.11% | -8.12% |

English Language Arts: Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards

Math: Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Standards

| State/District/School | Math: Standard Met or Exceeded 2019 | Math: Standard Met or Exceeded 2022 | Math: Percentage Change |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| State of California | 39.73% | 33.38% | -6.35% |
| Galt Joint Union Elementary School | 40.95% | 35.49% | -5.46% |
| McCaffrey Middle | 37.26% | 31.92% | -5.34% |
| Marengo Ranch Elementary | 38.85% | 42.63% | +3.78% |
| River Oaks Elementary | 54.37% | 42.48% | -11.89% |
| Lake Canyon Elementary | 47.94% | 39.67% | -8.27% |
| Valley Oaks Elementary | 30.65% | 24.67% | -5.98% |
| Greer Elementary | 44.4% | 35.97% | -8.43% |

I thank you for your continued support and I am confident our students will continue to excel and thrive in Galt! Have a safe weekend as we approach the holiday season!

Genuinely,

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