A New Kind of Science Test for California

This year, students in high school took the new California Science Test (CAST). This test measures students’ understanding of the California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS), which cover the core ideas, concepts, and practices in science and engineering. The CAST is one measure of your child’s academic performance. Your child’s results should be viewed with other available information—such as classroom tests, assignments, and grades.

What do my child’s scores mean?

There are four levels of scores for science. “Standard Met” and “Standard Exceeded” are the state targets for all students.

- **Standard Exceeded** (Level 4)
- **Standard Met** (Level 3)
- **Standard Nearly Met** (Level 2)
- **Standard Not Met** (Level 1)

About the CAST for High School

The CAST is a challenging new science test that measures how well your child understands the scientific core ideas, concepts, and practices taught in high school. The CAST assesses skills such as critical thinking and problem solving. The CAST contains stand-alone questions and performance tasks. The stand-alone questions include multiple choice, matching, fill-in, graphing, and short written responses. The performance tasks ask students to make sense of scientific phenomena in simulated experiments or real world situations. The knowledge and skills assessed on the CAST are critical for students to be prepared for success in college or career. Students in high school have one opportunity to take the CAST.
Bella's score of 2530 met the standard for high school science.

**Science Area Performance**

How well does your child understand the core ideas, concepts, and practices in science?

- **Life Sciences**: Focusing on structures and processes in living things, ecosystems, heredity and biological evolution
  - Standard
  - Above Standard

- **Physical Sciences**: Focusing on matter and its interactions, motion and stability, energy, and waves and their applications
  - Standard
  - Above Standard

- **Earth and Space Sciences**: Focusing on Earth’s place in the universe, Earth’s systems, and Earth and human activity
  - Standard
  - Above Standard

**Parent/Guardian Resources**

Visit the test score website at [https://ca.startingsmarter.org/](https://ca.startingsmarter.org/) to:

- Understand your child’s score report
- Check out sample test questions
- Find free resources to support your child’s learning

Complete results for schools, districts, or the state are available on the CAASPP results website at [https://caaspp.cde.ca.gov/](https://caaspp.cde.ca.gov/).