

# HAMILTON

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

February 15th, 2023

Dear Hamilton Family,

In a few weeks we will enter Spring, which also means it's time to prepare for this year's Colorado Measures of Academic Success assessments. We will administer the English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics assessments for 6th, 7th and 8th graders from Tuesday, April 11 through Thursday, April 13. In order to provide the best testing experience possible for our students, we will utilize an assessment schedule that extends across the entire school day, with ample breaks and student-centered activities between assessments. Our plan is to assess ELA in the morning, and Mathematics in the afternoon. In addition to the ELA and Math CMAS assessments, 8th grade students will also participate in the CMAS Science Assessment on Monday, April 10th and Friday, April 14th. A finalized testing schedule with more specific timing details will be available by March 24th.

Families may choose to opt their student out of participating in this year's assessment. Below is information from the Denver Public Schools about how to Opt Out online. Students must either participate in all assessments or complete the opt out process.

When students participate in all assessments they provide valuable information to families and educators that show whether students have mastered grade-level content and are on track to graduate prepared for the 21st century. Results from these assessments inform where Denver Public Schools can improve curriculum, instruction and leadership in order to ensure that every child receives an equitable education and is on a path to success.

Students who are opted out of participating in CMAS assessments and attend school while we are testing will be asked to assemble in our Auditorium for the entirety of the school day, and bring a book to read. Access to cell phones and chromebook devices will not be allowed to ensure the integrity of our testing environment and systems. Students will be supervised by a staff member though no direct instruction will be provided as our faculty and staff will be administering the CMAS assessments school wide and unavailable for instruction.

If you have specific questions or concerns regarding CMAS and Hamilton's plan for administering this year's assessment, please do not hesitate to contact us.

In partnership,

Fernanda Dillon  
[Fernanda\\_Dillon@DPSk12.net](mailto:Fernanda_Dillon@DPSk12.net)  
Principal

Rachel Langberg  
[Rachel\\_Langberg@DPSk12.net](mailto:Rachel_Langberg@DPSk12.net)  
Assistant Principal

Christine Manzanares  
[Christine\\_Manzanares@DPSk12.net](mailto:Christine_Manzanares@DPSk12.net)  
Assistant Principal/SAL

8600 East Dartmouth Avenue  
Denver, Colorado 80231  
(720) 423-9500  
[hamilton.dpsk12.org](http://hamilton.dpsk12.org)



## Opting Out of Assessments

To learn more, please select from the languages below to access "A Parent's Guide to Opting Out in the Parent Portal."

[English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Amharic](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Burmese](#) | [French](#) | [Nepali](#) | [Russian](#) | [Somali](#)

Families who wish to excuse their student from participation in one or more of the state assessments may do so online by completing the district's opt-out application accessible via this link -> [Parent Portal](#). You may also opt out by downloading and completing the **Non-Participation Request for Assessments** form and returning it to the school. Forms are available in English and Spanish here -> [English Version](#) or [Spanish Version](#)

If you prefer, you also have the option of writing a letter and taking it to the school. If you have more than one child, you will need to fill out the form or write a letter for each child to opt out.

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