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THE EARLY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

March 1, 2006

Dear Eleventh Grade Student:

As part of the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program, you will soon be taking a series of California Standards Tests (CSTs) in a variety of subjects you have been studying. Two of the major subjects are English and mathematics.

When you take the CSTs, you will be given the opportunity to participate in the Early Assessment Program (EAP) to determine whether you are “on track” to meet college entry-level standards in English and mathematics. If you do well on these tests, you may earn exemptions from the English and mathematics placement tests required of entering freshman at the California State University (CSU).

It's easy to participate in the program! When you take the eleventh grade CSTs in English-language arts and mathematics, you will find that each test is followed by a brief set of supplementary questions. To participate in the Early Assessment of Readiness for College Mathematics program, all you have to do is answer 15 additional multiple-choice items. To participate in the Early Assessment of Readiness for College English program, you will have to answer 15 additional multiple-choice questions and write an essay that is scheduled on another date by your school. Together, these tests are components of the Early Assessment Program.

As an EAP participant you will receive test results at the start of your senior year along with information regarding your options for college preparation. We hope you will complete the EAP portion of the CST and use the results to help you plan for college. A great deal of information regarding the EAP is available for you and your parents on the CSU EAP web sites at <http://www.calstate.edu/eap>, <http://www.csumathsuccess.org>, and <http://www.csuenglishsuccess.org>. If you have any questions regarding the EAP, please contact your high school counselor or the EAP coordinator at the CSU campus nearest you.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Ladd, Ed.D.
Superintendent