



February 8, 2021

Dear Liberty Tree Academy Family,

We are approaching the time of year when we are required to administer the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) assessment for students in grades 3-5. To manage this year's unique logistical challenges of administering required state assessments, we will implement an "opt-in" versus "opt-out" registration process for this year only. Our priority is to maintain the safety of our students and staff and to prioritize instruction with students while providing families the option to participate in state assessments if they so desire. Below you will find details on how to register your child/ren for participation in state assessments this year.

Beginning in the middle of April, 3rd-5th graders will have the option of participating in assessments of English language arts and math. Fifth-graders who chose to participate will also take a test in science. In a typical year, these assessments inform how we deliver instruction to meet the unique needs of each student. Teachers use these assessment results to plan with students to set goals to support their individual learning needs. Additionally, parents receive information about academic strengths and areas for growth, as well as information about how their child/ren compare to other students across the state. These assessments are also used by our community to assess the quality of our school overall.

This year is different. We fully expect that we will have less participation than in typical years and that the school-wide results will not be valuable for making programmatic decisions about our school. We also know that the tests will not provide us accurate information about a student's strengths or deficits due to the magnitude of disruptions to in-person learning. While we must administer state assessments, it is now and always has been a parent's choice to have students participate. There are no negative consequences for students who choose not to participate.

Knowing these factors, if you would like for your 3rd-5th grade child/ren to participate in the CMAS assessment this spring, please register each child with your intent by completing the form in the front office **no later than February 19th**. We will provide you with specific testing dates prior to spring break.

Thank you for your continued support of your child/ren, our teachers and our school. Please contact Mrs. Moore at mrs.moore@ltaeagles.org if you have any questions or concerns. You can also access further information about our district and state assessment program at: <http://d49.org/assessments>.

In partnership,

Mrs. Wilson
Principal, Liberty Tree Academy
