Superintendents/Principals to Parents

*Use this entire article or just portions of it to communicate about the score reports.*

**CMAS score reports provide a snapshot of your student’s academic progress**

As we strive to provide the best education for your children, I am writing to you today to discuss a tool that can assist you in understanding your child's academic progress -- the statewide Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) score reports.

You will soon receive score reports that detail how your student performed on the CMAS tests that were given last spring in English language arts, math and science.

It is important to know that these tests represent one measure of a student’s academic progress. They are a snapshot in time, with test questions created in collaboration with Colorado teachers, to help explain whether students are meeting Colorado’s grade-level expectations and whether they are on track for the next grade level.

Because these tests represent just one measure of a student’s progress, the score reports should be used along with classroom grades and teacher feedback to understand your student’s academic progress more completely. Please talk with your child’s teacher for a broader picture of their achievement from last year and to understand the areas they need to focus on this coming year.

Here are some tips to help guide your understanding of the score reports:

1. **Identify Strengths and Areas for Growth:** Score reports can spotlight your child's academic strengths and can also reveal areas that may need additional attention and support. Use the reports to talk with your child, teachers and school counselors about potential strategies for improvement.
2. **Set Realistic Goals:** Score reports can be a starting point for setting goals for your child. By working collaboratively with teachers, you can develop a plan to support your child’s growth and ensure they reach their full potential.
3. **Pandemic effects continue.** It is important to remember that the pandemic’s lingering impact on education may be reflected in your student’s score reports.

We understand that these score reports are just one piece of the puzzle, and they do not capture the full range of your child's abilities or potential. They serve as snapshots of your child’s progress at a specific point in time and should be viewed as tools for growth, not definitive judgments.

Additional tools are available to help you understand the purpose of the tests and how to interpret the score reports. Handouts in both English and Spanish include information about the tests, a guide to understanding the CMAS score reports, as well as explainers about the SAT and PSAT. All the resources are found at: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents>.

As partners in your child's education, we encourage you to consider these score reports as valuable resources. By using them effectively, you can gain a deeper understanding of your child's academic strengths, areas for improvement and actively support their educational journey.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration. Together, we can empower your child to achieve their fullest potential.