

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 5

the
Learning Link

Roscomare Road School

Principal Dr. Denise Collier

Smarter Balanced Assessment Results Soon to Be Released

Starting next week, results of the new Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) will be released statewide. Students in grades 3-5 took these online assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics this past spring. Parents/caregivers will receive individual student reports mailed to their homes from the Student Testing Branch in the next 2 weeks.



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Gifted and Talented Program

The Gifted and Talented Coordinators for Roscomare Road School are Ms. Greenger and Ms. Wong. They will host an informational meeting for parents on September 30, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. More information will be provided. SBA Assessments will also be discussed.

Back to School Nights

Grades 3, 4 & 5

Wednesday,
September 16, 2015

Grades TK, K,
1, & 2

Thursday,
September 17,
2015

Come learn more about your child's classroom and how you can support *the road to excellence at Roscomare.*

Meet the Specialists at Roscomare

Roscomare Road School has a number of specialists who provide excellent enrichment and instructional opportunities for students.

Visual Arts – Ms. Murphy

Vocal Music – Ms. Meske

Instrumental Music/Orchestra – Ms. Davidson

Computer/Technology – Mr. Hyatt

Librarian – Ms. Eghbali

STAR Science – Ms. Natalie

STAR PE – Coach Boris, Coach Jesse, Coach Anthony, and Coach Blake



Ms. Davidson

LAUSD provides a librarian and one day of music. The other specialists are paid for by the Friends of Roscomare (FOR).

Smarter Balanced Assessment

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The Smarter Balanced Assessments are based on California's new, more challenging academic standards that are designed to help all students graduate college and career ready. There are several notable differences between these new assessments and the tests we had in past:

1. Grade Levels Tested -- In the past, students in grades 2-11 were tested on the California Standards Tests in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The new assessments are given in grades 3-8 and 11.
2. Computer Based –The assessments were taken online only. There were no paper and pencil versions of the tests in English Language Arts and Mathematics.
3. Computer Adaptive – On the former multiple choice tests, every student got the same set of questions. With computer adaptive testing, the assessment is customized to each student. During testing, the difficulty of questions changes based on student responses. If a student answered a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If a student answers a question incorrectly, the next question is easier. Computer adaptive testing provides more precise information about achievement.
4. Questions in a Variety of Formats – Unlike the former multiple choice tests where choices were provided for students, the new tests ask students to demonstrate their understanding in different ways, such as explaining their solutions or providing rationales in their writing. Students are asked to use graphing skills or listen to an audio recording and then respond to questions about what they heard.

Roscomare Road Book Fair

Please support the annual Book Fair happening September 9th to September 18th.

"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body" ~ Joseph Addison



Exploring the World of Science

STEM@ROSCOMARE

Roscomare Road is starting a Science Olympiad Team. The team will meet after school one day per week. The Elementary Science Olympiad is designed to encourage collaboration, team spirit, and enthusiasm for **science, technology, engineering and mathematics**. Information about the Science Olympiad can be found at: <http://www.lacountysscienceolympiad.org/>

Competition is a motivating and exciting part of the Science Olympiad, but it is not the most significant outcome of the tournament. A key part of the elementary program is to explore new content and engage in problem solving strategies using science and engineering practices. Applications will go out to 3rd, 4th and 5th graders in mid-September. The number of participants will depend on the number of community/parent volunteers.

Khan Academy

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

The fifth grade teachers at Roscomare Road regularly use Khan Academy along with thousands of teachers in the United States. Khan Academy starts with simple kindergarten micro math lectures and ends with college-level calculus problems. Khan Academy is also slowly building content for other subject matters. Keep this website handy. *Your child can use it for the next 15 years!*