

Smarter Balanced Assessment & Dakota STEP Testing for Juniors

On **Wednesday, April 11** and **Thursday, April 12**, juniors will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment (math and English) and the South Dakota Science Assessment mandated by the state of South Dakota.

The **Smarter Balanced assessments** measure student achievement in relation to our state standards in the areas of math and English language arts. One of the important features of the Smarter Balanced assessments is that they can help us determine whether your student is on track for college and career readiness. All six of South Dakota's public universities accept Smarter Balanced scores as evidence of students' readiness for credit bearing coursework in English and math.

The **South Dakota Science assessment** is a criterion-referenced (specific subject areas) test that is based upon our South Dakota state standards in science.

Juniors will report to their assigned testing area at 8:00 am on April 11 and 12. Students will be released from testing at approximately 1:00 pm on both days. A snack will be provided during each testing session. Students will resume regularly scheduled classes on Friday, April 13.

Students need to bring the following to the testing room:

- Student ID
- Scratch paper
- Writing Utensil
- Headphones (if students do not have their own, a pair will be supplied for them)

If students are absent during testing, they will have to make up the test at a later time.

***CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATING DEVICES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN TESTING ROOMS.**