



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BENJAMIN PARKER ELEMENTARY
45-259 WAIKALUA ROAD
KANEEOHE, HAWAII 96744

April 12, 2023

Dear Parent,

The *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*, as reauthorized by the *Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)*, requires states to establish challenging standards, develop aligned assessments, and build accountability systems based upon educational results. All students are included in a state's system of standards, assessments, and accountability.

All students in the state of Hawaii in grades 3–8 and 11 will take the Smarter Balanced English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy and Mathematics Assessments and all students in grades 5 and 8 will take the Hawai'i State Science (NGSS) Assessments. At Ben Parker Elementary we will be taking the assessments on April 25- May 3, 2023. The 5th grade classes will be taking the Science portion on April 19th and 20th. The purpose of the assessments is to provide you and your child's teacher(s) with information about the extent to which your child has met identified content standards in ELA/literacy, mathematics, and science, depending on your child's current grade level. A *Parent Information Booklet* with information about the Smarter Balanced and Hawai'i State Science (NGSS) Assessments and what you can do to help your child prepare has been posted online at <https://smarterbalanced.alohahsap.org/resources/>. Before the assessments, please visit the alohahsap.org portal for more information and practice sessions.

The Department of Education strongly encourages all parents to have their children participate in the Smarter Balanced ELA/Literacy and Mathematics Assessments and the Hawai'i State Science (NGSS) Assessments so that we can better identify their academic strengths and needs. Please make sure that your child gets a good night's sleep, eats breakfast and is in school on time on these days to make sure they are able to complete the needed assessments to the best of their abilities.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 307-1100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindee Raymond".

Cindee Raymond
Principal