

To: All 10th Grade Students who must take the CAHSEE

Dear Connecting Waters Parent(s)/Student,

The California Department of Education requires that all students must pass the CAHSEE in order to earn their high school diploma. Passing the exam is in addition to meeting all the graduation requirements. The exam is based on 9th and 10th grade English Language Arts content standards and 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math content standards. Students are given their first opportunity to pass the CAHSEE during their sophomore (10th grade) year in March.

Unfortunately, our 10th grade CAHSEE passage rate has been below the state and county averages. Our 10th grade students who have scored below basic or far below basic on English Language Arts and math (general and algebra) on the 9th grade STAR exam are at risk of not passing the CAHSEE the first time. We want our students to be successful on their first attempt at taking this high stakes exam and alleviate the stress of passing the test in their 11th or 12th grade year. Schools that provide an intensive CAHSEE plan for their 10th grade students have increased the first time passing rate of their 10th grade students. Our records indicate that your student is at risk of not passing the CAHSEE on his/her first attempt and needs assistance. In order to assist our 10th graders pass the exam on their first attempt, the below CAHSEE Intensive policy has been established.

Our students have the valuable opportunity to receive individual or group tutoring and/or take part in CAHSEE prep classes in order to review the academic concepts needed to pass the exam and be on track for graduation.

CAHSEE Intensive Plan

Who will participate:

- All 10th graders who score below basic or far below basic on English Language Arts and math (general and algebra) on their 9th grade STAR exam.

What is the CAHSEE Intensive Plan:

- The CAHSEE Intensive Plan is a weekly academic enrichment program set up to help all CWCS students pass the CAHSEE and receive a high school diploma. All services are provided by a Highly Qualified Teacher or Tutor.
- Students who meet the above guidelines must do the following: Choose an approved CAHSEE Intensive option and attend all sessions. CAHSEE Intensive options will be set up and shared each year in August.
- Options include but are not limited to:
 - Classes at the learning center(s)
 - Weekly tutoring sessions
 - Online classes

Attendance

- Students are required to participate in CAHSEE Intensive during the complete fall semester of their 10th grade year.
- Students must contact **their instructor / tutor** if they are unable attend a class or an appointment. Notice must be given within 24 hours of the meeting time; students who miss 2 classes or appointments and fail to provide 24 hour notice can be dropped from CWCS.
- Attendance is taken weekly and reports are sent out to students' ES.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Why is CAHSEE Intensive required?

The CAHSEE Intensive program is required as part of a student's Personalized Learning Improvement Plan (PLIP)

• Do students have to participate in CAHSEE Intensive?
Yes, if they fall into the guidelines above.

• What is the cost for CAHSEE Intensive and how do I pay for it?
CAHSEE Intensive options vary; some options are free, while others have a fee. Instructional funds are used to pay for any fees or needed student materials.

• Can a student set up their own intensive option?
No, students must choose from one of the approved options provided.

Additional Information:

CAHSEE Test Date & Time:

In January, you will receive a letter in the mail with the specific location and time of each test offered. Please be sure to ask your ES if you do not receive information.

Truancies:

Students must attend the following scheduled appointments: learning record meetings, CAHSEE Prep tutoring sessions and CAHSEE classes, Special Education meetings and related tutorials, and exam/testing sessions. Any of these missed appointments will be considered a truancy.

Graduation vs. Completion: (Differences between graduating with a High School Diploma versus receiving a Certificate of Completion, or a School Certificate)

- In order for students to receive a diploma, they must meet all of our graduation requirements, and that includes the passing of the CAHSEE. This applies to both Regular and Special Ed students.
- Special Ed students who have completed the requirements as specified in their IEP, but have not met all of the school's graduation requirements (CAHSEE included), may receive a Certificate of Completion. (Consult with Special Ed).
- Non-Special Ed Students who meet all of the graduation requirements, but do not pass the CAHSEE, will receive a School Certificate. They will not receive a Certificate of Completion nor will they receive a Diploma.
- *The Certificates simply state that the student has completed the basic graduation requirements of the school. We do not know if this will be accepted by future employers.
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Your student has been enrolled in the following CAHSEE Intensive Option:

Class or Tutoring Company	
Teacher / Tutor Name	
Day / Time	
Location	
Materials	
Start Date / End Date	
Teacher / Tutor Contact Information	

By signing below I am acknowledging that I have received and understand the information contained in this letter.

Parent signature _____ Print Parent Name _____ Date _____

Student signature _____ Print Student Name _____ Date _____

ES signature _____ Print ES Name _____ Date _____

ES Instructions:

Please place signed 10th Grade CAHSEE letter in student's file and mark the CAHSEE box on the student checklist in FRED (view/Student/Student Checklist button)"