

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Smarter Balanced has developed next-generation assessments to accurately measure student progress toward college and career readiness in English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics. It is a standardized test which the state of New Hampshire uses to help set rigorous learning expectations. At TRMS, we use the results as one data point. The information helps educators and parents understand academic areas where the child thrives as well as where the child may need extra support.

Smarter Balanced testing will be taking place on the following days:

6th grade: March 29th thru the 31st (English/ Language Arts) April 5th thru 7th (Math)

7th grade: April 12th thru the 14th (English/ Language Arts) April 19th thru 21st (Math)

8th grade: April 12th thru the 14th (English/ Language Arts) April 19th thru 21st (Math)

On the reserve side of this letter, you will find websites which will allow your child to practice before the actual testing day. We strongly encourage parents/guardians to practice these tests with their children to get a sense of what they will experience during the actual testing process this year. Together we can work to help make this a valuable experience for your child, and enable them to perform to the best of their ability.

With that in mind, here are a few healthy habits that you can use to ensure your child's best performance on testing day:

- Please make sure your child gets plenty of sleep the night before
- Please make sure your child eats a nutritious breakfast the morning of
- Please send in water and snacks with your child
- Please encourage your child to do their personal best

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at the number or email listed below.

Sincerely,

Christine Desrochers

Curriculum Coordinator

Timberlane Regional Middle School

christine.desrochers@timberlane.net

(603) 382-7131 extension 4909

SMARTER BALANCED RESOURCES

- **PTA Parent Guides to Student Success:**

<http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>

**New Hampshire Department of Education,
Student Assessment:**

<http://education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/sbac/index.htm>

New Hampshire Smarter Balanced Portal:

<http://nh.portal.airast.org/>

Smarter Balanced Website, family page:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents-students/>

- **Smarter Balanced Practice Tests:**

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/practice-test/>