

## Why Do We Have State Testing?

The goal of the South Dakota Department of Education is that all high school students graduate college, career, and life ready. To this aim, the South Dakota assessment system is designed to provide districts, schools, and parents with the information they need to ensure that their students remain on track to reach this goal. South Dakota public school students participate in annual summative testing in English language arts and mathematics and the results of these tests are included in the state accountability system. In addition to annual tests in English language arts and mathematics, South Dakota requires assessment of science and writing annually and provides schools and teachers with resources to utilize other assessments to help identify strengths and areas for improvement.

### **Review your child's test**

The Office of Assessment, housed within the Division of Assessment and Accountability, is responsible for implementing and supporting the SDDOE's summative, interim, and formative assessment programs.

## State Testing Dates 2017-2018

### **Smarter Balanced (ELA and Math Assessment)**

Grades 3-8 and 11: March 7 - May 4, 2018

### **MCAA (Alternate ELA and Math Assessment)**

March 19 - May 4, 2018

### **South Dakota Science and South Dakota Science Alt**

April 2 - May 4, 2018

### **Home School Testing**

March 26 - April 20, 2018

### **NCRC**

Grade 11 or 12, schools work with CTE and Dept. of Labor to schedule