

California Department of Education

Executive Office

SBE-003 (REV. 11/2017)

imab-adad-jan25item01

# California State Board of Education January 2025 Agenda Item #06

## Subject

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress and English Language Proficiency Assessments for California: Request for Approval of the Proposed Technical Amendments to the Student Score Reports.

## Type of Action

Action, Information, Consent

## Summary of the Issue(s)

The California Department of Education (CDE) seeks approval of the proposed technical amendments to the Student Score Reports (SSRs) for the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for English Language Arts/literacy (ELA) and Mathematics, the California Science Test (CAST), and Initial English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC).

## Recommendation

The CDE recommends that the State Board of Education (SBE) approve the proposed technical amendments to the SSRs for the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for ELA and Mathematics, CAST, and Initial ELPAC, as provided in Attachment 1. The CDE also recommends that the SBE delegate authority to CDE staff, subject to the approval of the SBE Executive Director, to make any additional necessary clarifying technical edits to the SSRs.

## Brief History of Key Issues

At its September 2023 meeting, the SBE approved the proposed revisions to the CAASPP and ELPAC SSRs as provided to be implemented starting with the 2023–24 administration. In addition, the SBE delegated authority to CDE staff, subject to the approval of the SBE Executive Director, to make the necessary clarifying technical edits to the SSRs.

Subsequently, CDE staff and the assessment contractor ETS identified some minor additional technical edits determined necessary to support clarity and distribution of the SSRs by local educational agencies (LEAs). A memorandum of the technical edits was sent to the SBE Executive Director and approved on January 5, 2024, consistent with the SBE’s related action at the September 2023 meeting.

After the implementation of the SSRs for the 2023–24 administration, a few additional technical amendments to the SSRs have been identified for the 2024–25 administration. The recommended technical amendments consist of the following:

1. For the CAASPP, the sentence on page two of the SSR under the score history levels states: “The arrow represents how far Jenny's score is from reaching the next level.” Starting with the 2024–25 SSRs, this sentence should be removed. This sentence is unnecessary as the alternative text makes this clear for users with visual impairments. In addition, this revision will bring consistency among the CAASPP SSRs.
2. For the CAASPP, starting with the 2024–25 SSRs, the following sentence should be added to the Essay Performance section on page four of the SSR detailing the student’s Writing Extended Response (essay) results to support clarity and understanding of student writing results: “For more information, review the Understanding the Smarter Balanced Writing Extended Response Question document at <https://ca.startingsmarter.org/WER/>.”
3. For the CAASPP, starting with 2024–25 SSRs, a blank page with the message “This page has been intentionally left blank.” should be added to the combined ELA, mathematics, and science SSR. This change supports LEA distribution of SSRs and facilitates duplex printing of multiple SSRs.
4. For the Initial ELPAC, starting with 2025–26 SSRs, the description regarding the Written Language Skills composite on page two of the SSR should be revised from “How well did your child read a variety of materials and answer questions about what your child read, write an opinion, and describe a picture or an experience?” to “How well did your child read a variety of materials; answer questions about what your child read; write letters, words or sentences that describe a picture?” This revision better describes the Written Language Skills expected for kindergarten through grade two students only. The previously   
   SBE-approved Written Language Skills description will continue to be used for students in grades three through twelve.

Sample CAASPP 2024–25 and ELPAC 2025–26 SSRs with the proposed technical amendments are included in Attachment 1.

## Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action

In December 2024, the CDE provided an information memorandum on the status of revisions to the reporting ALDs and SSRs (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/dec24memoadad01.docx>).

In November 2024, the SBE reviewed proposed revisions to CAASPP achievement level descriptors and SSRs and determined further feedback is needed prior to a decision (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/yr24/documents/nov24item05.docx>).

In October 2024, the CDE provided an information memorandum on the SSRs and Reporting ALDs (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/oct24memoadad01.docx>) (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/oct24memoadad01a1.pdf>) (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/oct24memoadad01a2.pdf>).

In September 2023, the SBE approved the proposed 2023–24 CAASPP and ELPAC SSRs (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/yr23/documents/sep23item03.docx>) (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/yr23/documents/sep23item03a2.pdf>).

In July 2023, the SBE provided feedback to the CDE regarding the proposed CAASPP and ELPAC SSR design and reporting enhancements (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/yr23/documents/jul23item03.docx>).

In June 2023, the CDE provided the SBE with information on the SSR proposed design and reporting enhancements (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/jun23memoadad01.docx>) (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/pn/im/documents/jun23memoadad01a1.pdf>).

In May 2023, the CDE provided the SBE with an update on the CAASPP and ELPAC SSR redesign for the 2023–24 school year (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/ag/ag/yr23/documents/may23item04.docx>).

## Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate)

Not applicable.

## Attachment(s)

* Attachment 1: Sample Proposed Student Score Report for the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress and Initial English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (8 pages)