



To Pre-Algebra 8 Students and Parents:

Course Description

The Pre-Algebra 8 course reviews and extends the study of whole numbers, integers, decimals, fractions and percents. Concepts of number sense, algebra and functions, measurement and geometry, statistics, data analysis, and probability, and mathematical reasoning are included. Attention is given to concrete materials, proportional relationships, multiple representations, patterns and generalizations, error analysis, estimation, real-world applications and problem solving strategies. This course is based on the California Mathematics Content Standards.

***All students must pass Algebra in order to graduate from high school. In addition, all students are required to pass the California High School Exit Exam. Approximately 85% of the items in the mathematics section of this exam test 6th and 7th grade content standards and the remaining items test Algebra 1 content.**

Basic Texts

All students are provided with state approved textbooks for this class. Students will need their textbooks both at school and at home every day.

Student Expectations

Students who expect to succeed must take an active part in their math class, complete all assigned work, perform well on quizzes and tests, and attend class regularly. Students' grades are based on homework, quizzes, tests, classwork, Cornell notes, open-ended math questions, and other assessments such as presentations, projects, and portfolios.

Cornell Notes

Students are expected to take notes during instruction, which they can refer to for homework and test preparation. Notes include vocabulary, descriptions, examples, visual models, and summaries to create a learning record of math concepts and processes learned.

Homework

Homework is assigned daily, and all work must be shown for credit. This is an area in which parents can take an active role. Parents should provide an appropriate work area and check their child's work for neatness and completeness throughout the year. It is important that students study the material, identify any problem areas, and secure additional help immediately if they have any questions. Students may get help on homework Monday through Thursday by calling the Homework Helpline at (562) 437-2859 between 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm.

District Assessments

Pre-Algebra 8 students take a variety of district assessments. Integer Facts Tests that assess students' proficiency adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing signed numbers are given throughout the year. At the end of quarter 1, students take a 20-item multiple-choice exam; at the end of quarter 2, students take a 25-item multiple-choice exam; and at the end of quarter 3, students take a 30-item multiple-choice exam. At the end of the school year, teachers administer the LBUSD End-of-Course Exam containing 50 multiple choice questions covering the same math standards as the General Mathematics Content Standards Test (CST), which is part of the STAR exam.

Calculator Usage

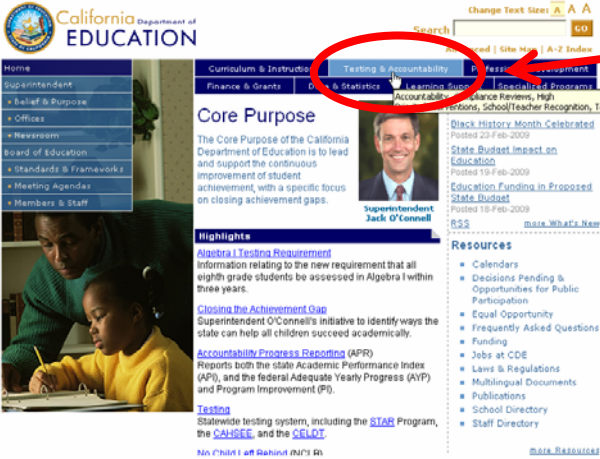
Long Beach Unified School District expects students to be proficient in many skills without the use of a calculator. When appropriate, calculators will be used. The use of calculators is not allowed on the STAR (California Standards) test or any of the district assessments described above.

Standardized Testing and Reporting Program (STAR) for Pre-Algebra 8

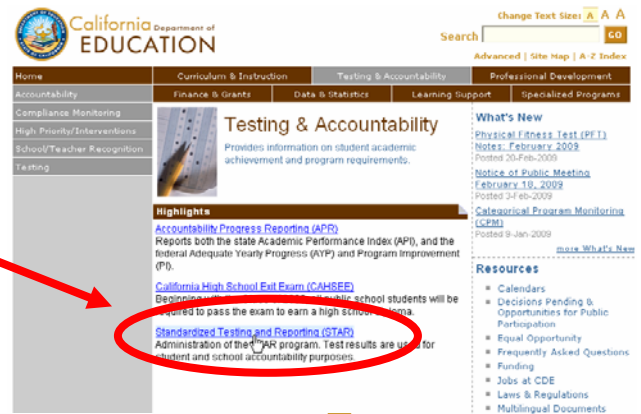
All students in grade eight will take the STAR test in the spring. Students enrolled in Pre-Algebra 8 take the General Mathematics California Standards Test (CST) which tests a combination of the grade 6 and 7 California math content standards. Calculators may not be used for this test. Released questions for grade 6 and 7 standards can be found on the California Department of Education's website: www.cde.ca.gov (see pages 3 and 4).

Accessing the CST Released Items

1. Go to www.cde.ca.gov
2. Click **Testing and Accountability**



3. Click **Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR)**



4. Click **Program Resources**

Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR)

Administration of the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program. Test results are used for student and school accountability purposes.

[Test Results Reporting Site](#)
STAR 2008 results are now available.

[2008 STAR Program Summary of Results](#) (Posted 15-Aug-2008; DOC; 372KB; 16pp.)

[Testing Variations, Accommodations, and Modifications](#) (Posted Oct-2008; DOC; 2.3MB; 6pp.)

[Program Resources](#)
Copyright permission, performance level tables, reference sheets, California Standards Tests blueprints, writing guides, sample test questions, information and assistance packets, and technical reports.

[CAPA Alternate Performance Assessment \(CAPA\)](#)

[California Modified Assessment \(CMA\)](#)

[Administrative Documents](#)
STAR regulations, Pre-ID, apportionment, and item and time charts.

[Program Notes](#)
STAR Assessment Notes.

5. Click **California Standards Test (CST) Released Questions**

Program Resources
Supplemental information for the STAR Program.

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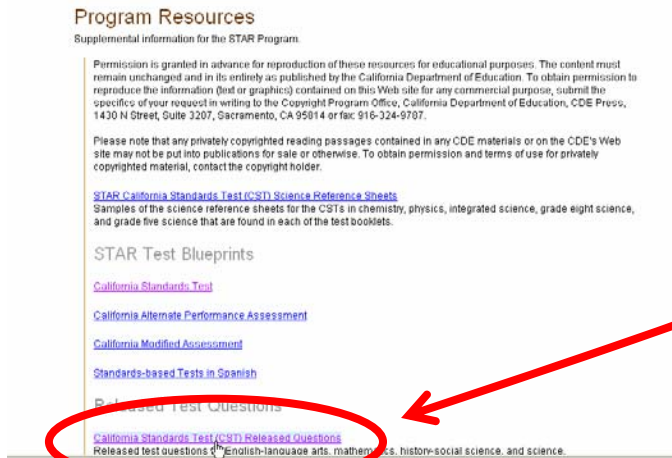
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[STAR California Standards Test \(CST\) Science Reference Sheets](#)
Samples of the science reference sheets for the CSTs in chemistry, physics, integrated science, grade eight science, and grade five science that are found in each of the test booklets.

STAR Test Blueprints

- [California Standards Test](#)
- [California Alternate Performance Assessment](#)
- [California Modified Assessment](#)
- [Standards-based Tests in Spanish](#)
- [Released Test Questions](#)

[California Standards Test \(CST\) Released Questions](#)
Released test questions for English-language arts, mathematics, history-social science, and science.



6. Under **Mathematics**, click **Grade 7**

7. Click **Grade 6** [Grade 6 Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability standards are included on the General Mathematics California Standards Test (CST)]

Mathematics

[Grade 2](#) (PDF; 3.8MB; 49pp.)

[Grade 3](#) (PDF; 784KB; 32pp.)

[Grade 4](#) (PDF; 706KB; 31pp.)

[Grade 5](#) (PDF; 1.3MB; 30pp.)

[Grade 6](#) (PDF; 554KB; 27pp.)

[Grade 7](#) (PDF; 1.1MB; 30pp.)

[Geometry](#) (PDF; 607KB; 35pp.)

[Algebra I](#) (PDF; 1.1MB; 27pp.)

[Algebra II](#) (PDF; 736KB; 27pp.)