

To: All SMCS Parents of students grades 2-11

From: School Directors and Assessment Department

Re: Upcoming state mandates STAR and PFT assessments

Dear Sky Mountain Charter School Parents:

This letter is to provide notification and confirm that you have received your STAR and PFT (All 5th, 7th, and 9th grade students) testing information from your ES. We need your commitment that your student will attend these March/April assessments so that we can continue to provide you parent choice through Sky Mountain Charter School for many years to come!

As a California public school, we have certain requirements that we must follow in order to remain an option for your student. One of the requirements is that we provide all of the state-mandated testing to our students each school year. Effective January 1, 2005 the federal No Child Left Behind Act and AB 1137 (Assembly Bill 1137) mandates that we must have 95% of our student population tested each year, as well as 95% of each ethnic subgroup test. This allows us to receive an API score from the state, which is one component of California's school accountability system. When a school doesn't have an API score it appears to the state that the school is not a quality school, and therefore, should not exist for the long term. Charter Schools provide choice in exchange for state accountability. According to the California Department of Education for 2008, all students in grades 2-11 are required to attend the STAR assessment, all 5th, 7th, and 9th grade students are required to participate in PFT, and all 10th graders are required to take both sections of CAHSEE. Please note that even if your 11th grade student plans to graduate this year, he/she is still considered an 11th grader and must take the STAR assessment. Thank you very much and we do appreciate your individuality and commitment to education. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please do not hesitate to talk to your ES. Please fill in the next page and return this to your ES. Thank you.

Please list the dates, times and location of the test site you are attending:

Date _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

___ Yes, my student(s) will be attending the required STAR testing in the spring

___ Yes, my 10th grade student(s) will be attending CAHSEE testing February 2nd and February 3rd.

___ I have a concern about testing (Optional):

My concern is:

___ I have a suggestion (Optional)

Please provide your suggestion(s):

Physical Fitness Testing is administered in conjunction with STAR testing for grades 5, 7, and 9 ONLY.

Does your student have any pre-existing medical conditions that would prohibit them from participating in any of the following physical fitness testing: one mile walk/run, shoulder stretches, body weight/height, curl-up, trunk lift, push ups?

Please list medical condition:

Parent/Guardian Signature

Emergency

Contact# _____