



UCASD Assessment Newsletter

SUMMER 2023
Issue #4



Inside this Edition...

OF THE UCASD ASSESSMENT NEWSLETTER

Please enjoy our **next installment** of our *UCASD Assessment Newsletter* series as we prepare as we prepare for 2023-2024 academic year!

In this issue, we:

- **Highlight** the hard work of the teachers, staff, administrators, and school board members that make UCASD a great place to work, learn, and grow!
- **Provide** families with some important information for 2023-2024, including:
 - The **2023-2024 Statewide Testing Windows** for PSSAs and Keystones
 - Our **2023-2024** Open House & Orientation schedules for each building

Pictured above, the graduates of the Class of 2023 pose with the Class of 2036--our K4 graduates--during our second annual Senior Walk at the elementary school. We are so proud of ALL of our graduates!

Reflecting on the Year & Preparing for the Future

UNION COUNTY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

As we conclude one school year and prepare for the next, our faculty, staff, and administration begin the important work of **preparing for the future**. This includes opportunities for reflection, growth, and learning so that we can continue to target our students' needs. Take a look at some of the ways we've been preparing for the future this Spring and Summer!

USING STATE & LOCAL ASSESSMENT DATA TO TRACK GROWTH & LEARNING



Throughout the Spring and Summer, as various forms of assessment data become available, our teachers and administrators meet to analyze that data in order to target students' needs. This summer, more than 15 teachers joined us on-campus for EdInsight Data Sessions in which we used our new data management system to run a host of reports to understand and target trends in state and local assessment data in order to improve student learning. **Thank you to all who participated!**

PLANNING INSTRUCTION USING DATA & EVIDENCE-BASED RESOURCES

More than sixty teacher and administrators joined us on-campus for a July In-Service centered around mapping our curriculum, including our new middle school science and elementary social studies programs. This is an ongoing, collaborative process that ensures that we are covering key skills and concepts across grade-levels. Teachers will revisit and update these maps throughout the year each year as we continue to use data to drive our instruction.

PLANNING PARENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES



We look forward to planning more events like our **Multiply the Fun!** Grades 3-5 Title I Math Night, where kids and parents played hands-on math games, learned about our *Reveal Math* curriculum, and took home mathematics-focused door prizes. This event occurred as a result of the valued parent engagement survey feedback we receive annually, and we expect to host even more events like this in 2023-2024 so that we can continue to support and engage with our families.





Preparing for the 2023-2024 Assessment Season

**KEYSTONE
EXAMS
2024**

Keystone Testing Windows

Winter Wave 1: December 4-15, 2023

Winter Wave 2: January 3-17, 2024

Spring: May 13-24, 2024

Summer: July 29-August 2, 2024

Students enrolled in Literature, Algebra, and Biology trigger courses, such as English 10/Lang. Fundamentals II, Algebra I, and Biology, take the Keystone Exams in the Spring each year. The Winter Wave of testing is reserved only for students who are retaking or making up assessments as part of their Act 158 graduation requirements. Students will be notified in the Fall if they need to take any winter exams. We do not assess students in the Summer at UCASD.

PSSA Testing Windows (Grades 3-8)

ELA (Grades 3-8): April 22-26, 2024

Math (Grades 3-8), Science (Grades 4 & 8), and Make Ups:
April 29-May 3, 2024

**PSSA
2024**

All students in Grades 3-8 take the PSSAs in Mathematics and English/Language Arts, but only students in Grades 4 & 8 take the Science exams each Spring.

Spring 2023 Score Reports for Parents/Guardians

Watch for your child's score report from the Spring 2023 PSSAs and Spring 2023 Keystone Exams this Fall! PDE will send our District physical copies of printed score reports with parent letters in late summer so that we can distribute these to families as they become available. As they are available for distribution, we will provide families with a global call and email to ensure you know when to be on the lookout for them.

The Fall edition of the *UCASD Assessment Newsletter* will showcase assessment trends from the Spring of 2023 assessments so that you can see how our students performed and how we are using those results and local assessment data to support students' needs.



See You Soon, Bears!

UNION CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Schedule for Open Houses & Orientations

<p>6th Grade Orientation Union City Area Middle School <i>High School Auditorium</i> Thursday, August 17, 2023 6:00-7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>K4 Orientation Union City Area Elementary School <i>Main Entrance</i> Monday, August 21, 2023 6:00-7:00 p.m. (AM Students) 7:00-8:00 p.m. (PM Students)</p>
<p>Kindergarten Orientation Union City Area Elementary School <i>Main Entrance</i> Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:00-7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>UC Cyber Orientation Union City Area High School <i>High School Auditorium</i> Wednesday, August 23, 2023 6:00-7:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Elementary School Open House Union City Area Elementary School Thursday, August 24, 2023 5:00-7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Middle/High School Open House Union City Area Middle & High School Thursday, August 24, 2023 6:00-8:00 p.m.</p>