

February 24, 2023

Hello Polton Community,

As we start to prepare for the last trimester of the year, we wanted to communicate with you about Polton's data so far this year and the upcoming state assessment. Each year, Colorado schools receive performance ratings to let them and their communities know how well they are doing. These reports are called the School Performance Frameworks (SPFs). The overall ratings assigned are based on achievement and growth on CMAS (Colorado Measures of Academic Achievement), the state standardized test, for students in Grades 3-5. As we communicated at the beginning of the year, Polton received an overall rating of *Turnaround: Low Participation* due to performing below state proficiency standards in the areas of test participation, academic growth, and academic achievement during the 2021-2022 school year.

Moving forward, we continue to work together to improve these metrics as they have a profound impact on our school and our community as a whole. To best address these metrics, we have prioritized the following throughout the 2022-2023 school year:

- Increasing student attendance.
- Increasing academic rigor and student engagement.
- Increasing academic, behavioral, and social-emotional support services.

Although CMAS is only given once per year and we receive results in the fall, we have been working closely with the Office of Assessment and Performance Analytics to analyze data that we currently have so that we can best adjust instruction throughout the course of this year. As of now, our data is showing that our students are making great growth and yet we still have more work to do to guarantee that all students are meeting achievement benchmarks. We are moving in the right direction and continuing to monitor and adjust our progress toward our goal of increased academic achievement and growth.

Another one of our goals this year is to also increase Polton's participation rates on the state test (CMAS). Our goal is to have more students participate in the test this year so that we move out of Low Participation (lower than 90%) into Meets Participation (95% or above). Federal law states that 95% of students overall take the required assessments, including each demographic category (students of color, students with an IEP, students who receive free or reduced lunch, students who are learning English). Our goal is that over 95% of students in grades 3-5 participate in the test so that we have accurate assessment data in order to identify next steps for our school community. During the 2021-2022 school year, we had low participation in many of the demographic categories, which meant that there weren't enough pieces of data to make informed instructional next steps for each of our students. If we meet participation rates (95% or above), we would receive the points from the state for overall participation and, more importantly, it would provide us an accurate picture of teaching and learning at Polton.

Students in grade 3-5 will take the CMAS test in the spring. See the attached testing schedule. Please try to schedule trips, appointments, etc., according to our testing schedule. We highly encourage all students in these grades to participate in the test. We are excited about the growth that our students are already making throughout this year and hope to see this upward trend reflected on the state test as well.

Thank you for your partnership! If you have any questions, please reach out.

Angie Lore, Principal

Courtney Blume, Assistant Principal

CMAS Testing Schedule 3rd-5th

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
March 27	March 28 5th Math 8:15-10:15 3rd Math 12:00-1:45	March 29 5th Math 8:15-10:15	March 30 5th Math 8:15-10:15 3rd Math 12:00-1:45	March 31 3rd Math 12:00-1:45
April 3	4 5th ELA 8:30-11:00 4th Math 8:45-10:45	5 5th ELA 8:30-11:00 4th Math 8:45-10:45	6 5th ELA 8:30-11:00 4th Math 8:45-10:45	7
10	11 4th ELA 9:00-11:30 3rd ELA 8:30-11:00	12 4th ELA 9:00-11:30 3rd ELA 8:30-11:00	13 4th ELA 9:00-11:30 3rd ELA 8:30-11:00	14
17	18 5th Science 8:30-10:20	19 5th Science 8:30-10:20	20 5th Science 8:30-10:20	21
24	25	26	27	28