

# Last Minute Memorandum

**To:** STATE BOARD MEMBERS **Date:** November 2003

**From:** Geno Flores, Deputy Superintendent, Assessment and Accountability Branch

**Re:** ITEM #6

**Subject:** Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program: Update on 2004 STAR California Standards Tests (CSTS) and California Achievement Tests, Sixth Edition Survey (CAT/6 Survey) Parent Report

State Board of Education (SBE) members received a draft copy of the revised 2004 STAR Parent Report at the September 2003 meeting. During October representatives from Educational Testing Service (ETS) and the Grow Network held focus group meetings with parents to receive input and suggestions for the report. The report has been renamed "The STAR Student Report" because parents/guardians and students' teachers receive the reports. In addition to "The STAR Student Report" for each student, teachers receive the "California Report for Teachers" that includes the results by class, grade, or other groupings for the year the tests were administered.

There are two prototype reports attached. One includes results for only the English-Language Arts and Mathematics CSTs. This report will be used for students in grades 2 through 4, 6, and 7. The second report includes results for the English-Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and History-Social Science CSTs. This report will be used for students in grades 10 and 11. A third report that will include the results for three CSTs will be used for students in grades 5, 8, and 9.

ETS and its subcontractor will continue work on the report and will present final prototypes to SBE for approval in January 2004. SBE will be able to make minor changes in the wording on the report at its March 2004 meeting. After the March meeting, the documents will move into production to report the 2004 test results.

[Attachment 1](#): The STAR Student Report (Pages 1-4)

# The STAR Student Report

U S I N G   A S S E S S M E N T   T O   H E L P   S T U D E N T S   L E A R N

Dear Parent/Guardian of **Bianca Smith**,

Each year, the STAR Program measures your child's progress in meeting California's Content Standards, which describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

This newly designed report shows your child's scores on the California Standards Tests and the CAT/6 Survey Edition and gives suggestions for how you can help your child learn.

*Sincerely,*

JACK O'CONNELL  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Student #: **000032291**

Date of birth: **2/12/93**

For the parent/guardian of:

**Bianca Smith**

123 Main Street

Los Angeles, CA 90210



Grade: **4**

Test date: **4/04**

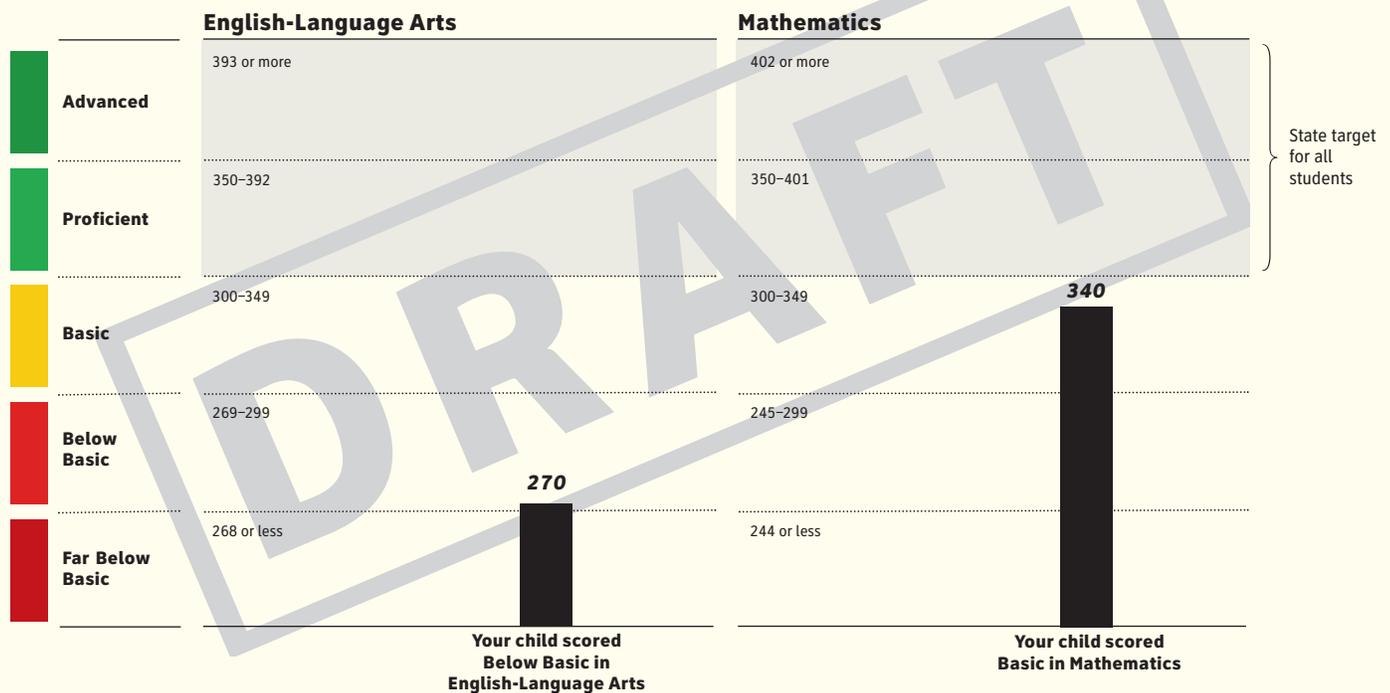
Teacher: **Michaelson**

School: **Johnson Elementary**

District: **Langeberg Unified**

## Your child's overall results on the California Standards Tests

### Your child's scores and performance levels



Ask your school for its STAR results or go to <http://star.cde.ca.gov>.

## How to help your child

**1** Review this report with your child and your child's teacher.

**2** Provide your child with a quiet place to study each day.

**3** Show an interest in your child's progress throughout the school year.



# Your child's strengths and needs based on these tests

## English-Language Arts GRADE 4

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS	YOUR CHILD'S SCORE (◆) COMPARED TO SCORE OF PROFICIENT STUDENTS			TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS
	LOWER	ABOUT THE SAME	HIGHER	
<b>Reading</b>				
Word Analysis and Vocabulary Development		◆		21
Reading Comprehension	◆			18
Literary Response and Analysis	◆			11
<b>Writing</b>				
Written Conventions	◆			18
Writing Strategies		◆		22
Writing Applications	The student's writing was illegible.			8

In the graph above, your child's score is compared to the scores of Proficient students. Proficient is the state target for all students. Based on your child's test results, one content area to focus on is **Reading Comprehension**.

## Mathematics GRADE 4

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS	YOUR CHILD'S SCORE (◆) COMPARED TO SCORE OF PROFICIENT STUDENTS			TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS
	LOWER	ABOUT THE SAME	HIGHER	
<b>Number Sense</b>				
Decimals, Fractions, and Negative Numbers		◆		16
Operations and Factoring	◆			15
<b>Algebra and Functions</b>		◆		18
<b>Measurement and Geometry</b>	◆			12
<b>Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability</b>		◆		5

In the graph above, your child's score is compared to the scores of Proficient students. Proficient is the state target for all students. Based on your child's test results, one content area to focus on is **Measurement and Geometry**.

### More about the English-Language Arts Standards

- **Word Analysis and Vocabulary Development:** Students understand the basic features of reading. They select letter patterns and know how to translate them into spoken language by using phonics, syllabication, and word parts. They apply this knowledge to achieve fluent oral and silent reading.
- **Reading Comprehension:** Students read and understand grade-level-appropriate materials. They draw upon a variety of comprehension strategies as needed (e.g., generating and responding to essential questions, making predictions, comparing information from several sources).
- **Literary Response and Analysis:** Students read and respond to a wide variety of significant works of children's literature. They distinguish between the structural features of the text and the literary terms or elements (e.g., theme, plot, setting, characters).
- **Written Conventions:** Students write and speak with a command of standard English conventions appropriate to this grade level.
- **Writing Strategies:** Students write clear, coherent sentences and paragraphs that develop a central idea. Their writing shows they consider the audience and purpose. Students progress through the stages of the writing process (e.g., prewriting, drafting, revising, editing successive versions).
- **Writing Applications:** Students write compositions that describe and explain familiar objects, events, and experiences. Student writing demonstrates a command of standard American English and the drafting, research, and organizational strategies outlined in Writing Standard 1.0.

### More about the Mathematics Standards

- **Number Sense:** Students understand the place value of whole numbers and decimals to two decimal places and how whole numbers and decimals relate to simple fractions, and use the concepts of negative numbers. Students also extend their use and understanding of whole numbers to the addition and subtraction of simple decimals, solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers and understand the relationships among the operations, and know how to factor small whole numbers.
- **Algebra and Functions:** Students use and interpret variables, mathematical symbols, and properties to write and simplify expressions and sentences, and know how to manipulate equations.
- **Measurement and Geometry:** Students understand perimeter and area and use two-dimensional coordinate grids to represent points and graph lines and simple figures. Students also demonstrate an understanding of plane and solid geometric objects and use this knowledge to show relationships and solve problems.
- **Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability:** Students organize, represent, and interpret numerical and categorical data and clearly communicate their findings and make predictions for simple probability situations.
- **Mathematical Reasoning:** Students make decisions about how to approach problems use strategies, skills, and concepts in finding solutions and move beyond a particular problem by generalizing to other situations.

For a complete copy of the standards, go to [www.cde.ca.gov/standards](http://www.cde.ca.gov/standards).

## Your child's reading level

Your child's reading list number is 3.

Encourage your child to read at home and help your child find books of interest. Strong reading skills are critical for success in all school subjects.

To find recommended books based on your child's reading level (as determined by these test results), go to <http://star.cde.ca.gov> and click on "California Reading List." This list provides titles of books that your child should be able to read independently. It includes different types of books, such as fiction, nonfiction, plays, and poetry.

## National comparison: CAT/6

The percentile ranks in the graph below shows how your child performed on the CAT/6 Survey Edition as compared to a national sample of students. These percentile ranks indicate the percentage of students your child scored as well as or better than on the test. The lowest possible percentile rank is 1, while the highest possible percentile rank is 99.

Reading	30
Language	21
Spelling	42
Mathematics	72

1 50 99  
Your Child's National Percentile Rank

# The STAR Student Report

U S I N G   A S S E S S M E N T   T O   H E L P   S T U D E N T S   L E A R N

Dear Parent/Guardian of **Kelly Smith**,

Each year, the STAR Program measures your child's progress in meeting California's Content Standards, which describe what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

This newly designed report shows your child's scores on the California Standards Tests and the CAT/6 Survey Edition and gives suggestions for how you can help your child learn.

*Sincerely,*

JACK O'CONNELL  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Student #: **000032291**  
Date of birth: **4/15/87**

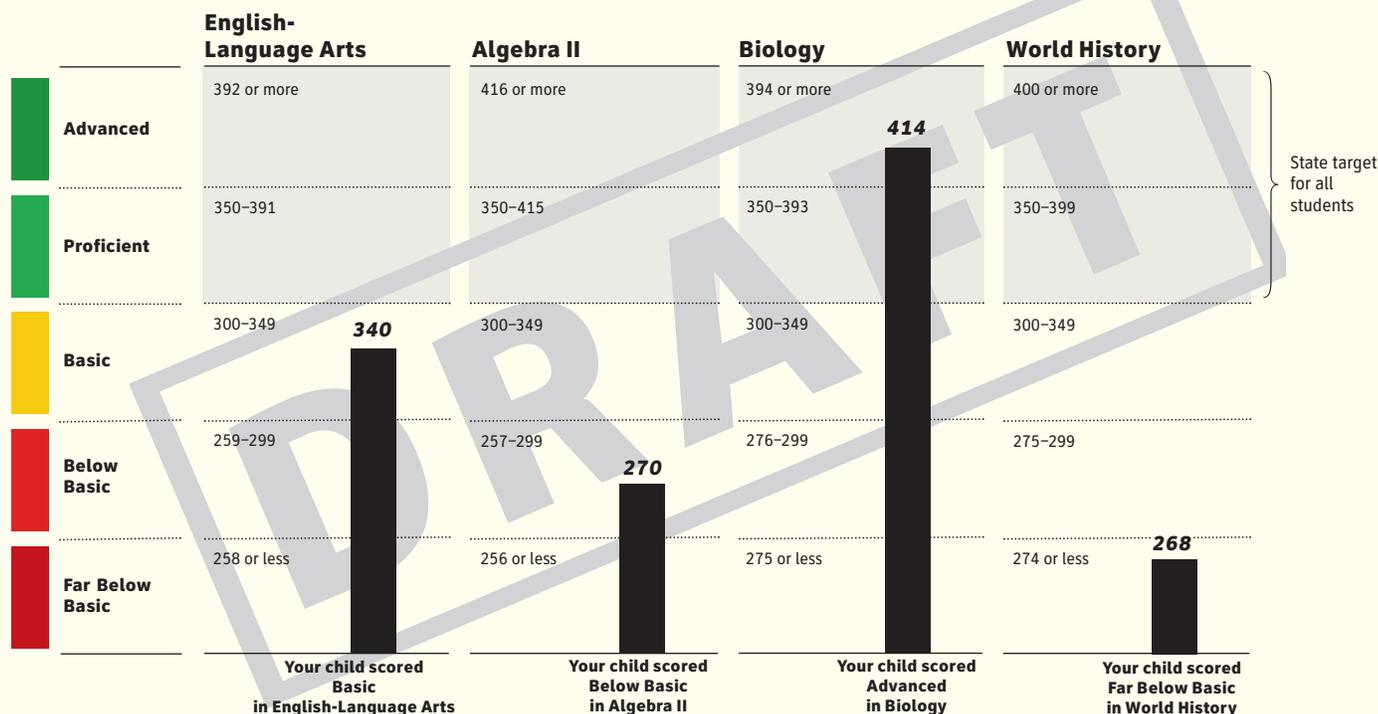
For the parent/guardian of:  
**Kelly Smith**  
2A Center Drive  
San Bernardino, CA 92401



Grade: **11**  
Test date: **4/04**  
Teacher: **Jones**  
School: **Washington HS**  
District: **San Bernardino Unified**

## Your child's overall results on the California Standards Tests

### Your child's scores and performance levels



Ask your school for its STAR results or go to <http://star.cde.ca.gov>.

## How to help your child

**1** Review this report with your child and your child's teacher.

**2** Provide your child with a quiet place to study each day.

**3** Show an interest in your child's progress throughout the school year.



# Your child's strengths and needs based on these tests

## English-Language Arts GRADE 10

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS	YOUR CHILD'S SCORE (◆) COMPARED TO SCORE OF PROFICIENT STUDENTS			TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS
	LOWER	ABOUT THE SAME	HIGHER	
<b>Reading</b>				
Word Analysis and Vocabulary Development		◆		8
Reading Comprehension	◆			18
Literary Response and Analysis	◆			16
<b>Writing</b>				
Written Conventions	◆			13
Writing Strategies		◆		20

In the graph above, your child's score is compared to the scores of Proficient students. Proficient is the state target for all students. Based on your child's test results, one content area to focus on is **Reading Comprehension**.

## Algebra II GRADE 10

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS	YOUR CHILD'S SCORE (◆) COMPARED TO SCORE OF PROFICIENT STUDENTS			TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS
	LOWER	ABOUT THE SAME	HIGHER	
<b>Polynomials and Rational Expressions</b>	◆			19
<b>Quadratics, Conics, and Complex Numbers</b>		◆		17
<b>Exponents and Logarithms</b>		◆		16
<b>Series, Combinations, Probability, and Statistics</b>	◆			13

In the graph above, your child's score is compared to the scores of Proficient students. Proficient is the state target for all students. Based on your child's test results, one content area to focus on is **Polynomials and Rational Expressions**.

## Biology GRADE 10

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS	YOUR CHILD'S SCORE (◆) COMPARED TO SCORE OF PROFICIENT STUDENTS			TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS
	LOWER	ABOUT THE SAME	HIGHER	
<b>Investigation and Experimentation</b>			◆	6
<b>Cell Biology</b>		◆		9
<b>Genetics</b>			◆	18
<b>Ecology and Evolution</b>			◆	16
<b>Physiology</b>		◆		11

In the graph above, your child's score is compared to the scores of Proficient students. Proficient is the state target for all students. Based on your child's test results, one content area to focus on is **Physiology**.

## World History GRADE 10

CALIFORNIA STANDARDS	YOUR CHILD'S SCORE (◆) COMPARED TO SCORE OF PROFICIENT STUDENTS			TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS
	LOWER	ABOUT THE SAME	HIGHER	
<b>Development of Modern Political Thought</b>		◆		13
<b>Industrial Expansion and Imperialism</b>		◆		10
<b>Causes and Effects of the First World War</b>	◆			14
<b>Causes and Effects of the Second World War</b>	◆			13
<b>International Developments in the Post-World War II Era</b>	◆			10

In the graph above, your child's score is compared to the scores of Proficient students. Proficient is the state target for all students. Based on your child's test results, one content area to focus on is **Causes and Effects of the First World War**.

For a complete copy of the standards, go to [www.cde.ca.gov/standards](http://www.cde.ca.gov/standards).

## Your child's reading level

**Your child's reading list number is 3.**

Encourage your child to read at home and help your child find books of interest. Strong reading skills are critical for success in all school subjects.

To find recommended books based on your child's reading level (as determined by these test results), go to <http://star.cde.ca.gov> and click on "California Reading List." This list provides titles of books that your child should be able to read independently. It includes different types of books, such as fiction, nonfiction, plays, and poetry.

## National comparison: CAT/6

The percentile ranks in the graph below show how your child performed on the CAT/6 Survey Edition as compared to a national sample of students. These percentile ranks indicate the percentage of students your child scored as well as or better than on the test. The lowest possible percentile rank is 1, while the highest possible percentile rank is 99.

Reading	30
Language	21
Mathematics	42
Science	72

1 50 99  
Your Child's National Percentile Rank