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Alder Grove Charter School

Our mission is to provide students with personalized learning and to support parental choice in education.

January 24th, 2012

Dear Families of 4th and 7th Grade Students,

This year your child is required to participate in a state mandated writing assessment. This is part of the regular STAR testing we do in April; however, this particular assessment is given earlier. Our 4th and 7th grade students will be taking the writing assessment on **Tuesday March 6th** at the main office (5th & M) in Eureka. In order to accommodate all our students, we will have TWO testing sessions:

7th Grade Students: 9:30am

4th Grade Students: 11:30am

If your child normally attends an on-site class during this time, they should first report directly to the main office at 5th & M where testing will take place. After they have completed the writing assessment, they can attend the remainder of their classes at the F & Sonoma school site.

The assessment is one essay and it is un-timed. Some students will complete their essay very quickly, while others may work for over an hour. If you know that your child will be completing the writing assessment in less than one hour, we suggest that you wait for them outside until they are finished.

For more information on this assessment, you can check the California Department of Education website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/resources.asp> or ask your teacher. Attached is a one-page summary of the California writing standards for your student's grade level. We suggest that you review the standards with your child and provide them with ample opportunities to practice writing grade-level appropriate essays. While we are happy to provide you with information on the various genres of writing the state requires all students to be familiar with, we do not know in advance what type of writing the state will be asking our students to attempt during the assessment.

Thanks in advance for your student's participation in this very important part of public education.

Sincerely,

Deborah C. Lammers
School Coordinator