

CAPITAN MUNICIPAL SCHOOLS

Home of the Tigers



February 5, 2021

Dear Tiger Parents,

Capitan Municipal Schools has made the decision to opt out of the required end of year exams for the 2020/2021 school year. In making this decision, we believe students would benefit more from instructional time in the classroom as the data generated by these exams does not give us useful information to help fill learning gaps. We will use the instructional time to address the needs of all our students.

On January 20, 2021, New Mexico Public Education Department informed local school districts of their intentions to seek a waiver from testing from the U.S. Department of Education for the 2020/2021 school year due to COVID-19. Consideration by the state includes: health concerns, disruption in the learning, and learning time which will be lost due to testing.

Listed below are the state required exams we have chosen to opt out of:

- NM-MSSA (grades 3-8 reading and math)
- NM ASR (grades 5, 8, 11 science)
- WIDA (English language proficiency)
- DLM (alternative assessment)

We will administer the SAT for all 11th grade students. The SAT is a college reportable test which can be used for admission purposes and possibly for scholarship opportunities.

If you would like further information or have any questions regarding these assessments, please contact your child's principal by February 11, 2021.

Sincerely,

Mark Driskell
Capitan Superintendent