



Vision We believe all students have the right to high quality educational experiences that develop their unique needs and passions.

Mission The mission is to partner with community resources to change public education, emphasizing creativity, and utilizing a fully inclusive model that educates the whole student through core values: **THINKING, EMPATHY, COMMUNITY, and BALANCE.**

May 14, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian of a current SOTA 10th Grader,

This month, your 10th grade student will take the Smarter Balanced tests in math and/or English language arts. These test results are used for state and federal accountability, as well as for assessment graduation requirements.

This is the fifth year our state will administer the Smarter Balanced tests. The results from the Smarter Balanced tests will provide a more accurate picture of whether students across the state are on track to be ready for career or college.

Our school will have access to the Smarter Balanced test scores a few weeks after students complete the online tests.

Our school is scheduled to take the tests

ELA for 10th Graders: Monday, May 20-23 in Humanities classes.

Math for 10th Graders: May 29, 30 and Monday and Tuesday, June 3rd and 4th during Math classes.

For more information about the Smarter Balanced tests, visit www.k12.wa.us/smarter.

To try out an online Smarter Balanced practice test, visit <https://wa.portal.airast.org/training-tests.stml>.

Please call or email **Rachel Pardur, SOTA Testing Coordinator, rpardur@tacoma.k12.wa.us** if you have questions about state testing. Students will be required to make up testing if they are absent.

Thank you for continuing to work with us to make sure your child is successful. We appreciate your support in making sure they get to school on time and are well rested. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to better support your child. We want your child to leave us with a solid foundation of skills and a future full of opportunities.

Appreciate your partnership,

Renee L. Froembling
Co-Director

Bliss King
Co-Director

We challenge ourselves to dive deep into any idea to emerge with a strong understanding as opposed to merely reciting facts. Learning is inspired by dreams and imaginations. - **THINKING**

EMPATHY - Every member of our community has unique perspectives, strengths and struggles, and we strive to adapt our approach to see the world from their point of view.

We are a learning community. Careful planning and design of school culture enables us to rely on the strengths of each staff and student and to develop our highest potential. - **COMMUNITY**

BALANCE - We develop both left-brained and right-brained thinkers, creativity alongside analysis. We find balance in perspective and our schools seek to always show both sides of a picture.