

Dear Parents and Students,

This spring, our students will have the opportunity to take the *Utah Aspire Plus* assessment, which is a hybrid of *ACT Aspire* and Utah Core test items. This is a computer delivered, fixed form high school assessment for students in grades 9 and 10. The assessment includes subtests for Reading, English, Math, and Science. *Utah Aspire Plus* is used to calculate student academic growth between 9th and 10th grades, and it provides students with a predictive score for the ACT, which is taken by all Utah grade 11 students and is the most commonly submitted college readiness assessment for local universities.

Because your student is taking some or all of their core classes virtually, we have scheduled an alternative location and times for them to take these ACT Aspire tests at Snow Canyon Middle School. We invite your student to join us on April 23 at 8:00 am to take the *ACT Aspire Plus* Math and Reading subtests. Both tests have 75 minute time limits. We will start the first test at 8:20 am and expect to be finished with the second test by 12:15 pm. The students will have a 20 minute break between tests. All ninth grade students will be taking these two tests on this date and time.

We also invite your student to participate in the English and Science subtests. These tests are shorter in length and can easily be finished in one day. We will offer special testing sessions to our virtual students on April 26 and May 5. These sessions will take place in the media center from 8:20 - 9:35 and 9:40 - 10:55. Students need to arrive by 8:00 am in order to get logged onto the chromebook and testing site.

Please encourage your student to participate in the tests to the best of their abilities. Along with communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity, *test-taking* is a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skill.

Thank you for your support and all you do to help your student be successful. We look forward to seeing our virtual students on April 23, and either April 26 or May 5. If I can answer any questions or these dates do not work for your student, please contact me here at SCMS at 435 680 4325.

Sincerely,

Brad Bench  
Snow Canyon Middle School Principal

You can review the Utah Core Standards at: <https://www.uen.org/core>