HISD | Student Assessment
MEASURING KNOWLEDGE. SUPPORTING GROWTH.
The Onliner

May 2017

Photo: Meme producers Fabian Villarreal, Christian Burgs, and D.J. Carr, members of the Student Tech Squad at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA) led by Ms. Dorothy Patel.
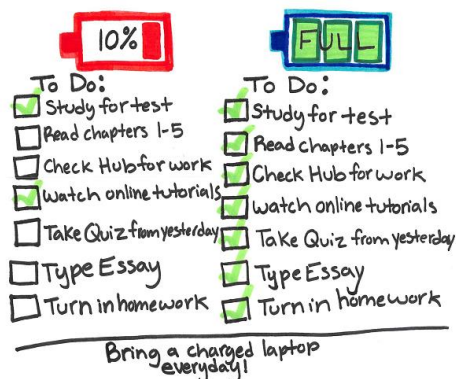
Keep Calm and Bring Your Fully Charged Laptop

Like at other campuses, teachers and students at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA) were frustrated with students who would forget to charge their laptops. Technologist Ms. Dorothy Patel tasked her student Tech Squad to remind students via posters and memes. "It took only a few days, and we started to see positive results" shared Ms. Patel. You may

download HSPVA's memes and posters from the eAssessment Student Advisory Team page.

Son, What is That Laptop for?

By Andrik Borja, Senior student at Northside High School

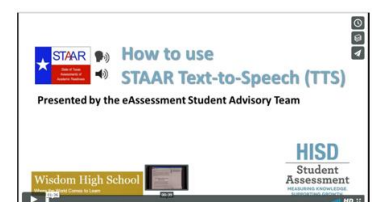Parents, this article is written by a student and addressed to you. I know that you are very busy trying to earn the daily bread and provide for us, your dear children. But besides potatoes, do not forget how important it is to communicate with the teachers of your children. The sacrifices you have made to give your children a chance to study and excel does not just mean to take them to school. Try to get involved in the second life your children have at school. I know you noticed that your children are carrying a laptop computer every day to school, and you wonder what do children do on these computers? And the answer is we do NOT use these computers to their full potential. These computers were distributed by HISD to transform education and the learner. It is a common misconception that parents were not educated in the arts of technology, but do not let that stuff stop you. The laptop computer holds the power for you to communicate with your children's teachers. A simple email to the teachers may be what you need to be able to form a connection between you and the teachers. The teachers will tell you about your children's potential. Ask your children to show you how to send a simple email.

Student-Created STAAR and OnTrack Support Videos

The media teams at Red Elementary (led by Mr. Octaviano Trevino and Mr. DeShaun Harris) and at Wisdom High School (led by Mr. David Fanucchi) are producing very helpful support videos for OnTrack and

STAAR.

You can access all support videos on the Online Assessment Video Channel on Office365.

STAAR	**OnTrack**
How to start (ENGLISH) (SPANISH) Text to Speech (ENGLISH) (SPANISH)	Highlighter & Eliminator Tools (ENGLISH) Text to Speech (ENGLISH)

Photo: The Wisdom High School Media Team - Eduardo Arista, Dinora Najera, Deimy Gutierrez, Yovana Perez, Yamilet Jimenez, Yonathan Funes, and David Fanucchi (Adviser)

Online Assessment Reference

The links below take you to often-used reference materials housed at www.HoustonISD.org/OA

- ➢ Online Testing Checklist (2-page PDF)
- ➢ Online Assessment Reference for Technology Staff (2-page PDF)
- ➢ Online Testing Guidelines (how to transition from paper to online testing, PDF)
- ➢ eAssessment Project (campuses transitioning from paper to online)
- ➢ eAssessment Student Advisory Team
- ➢ STAAR Online Support Resources
- ➢ Grade 8 TLA Support Resources
- ➢ Online Assessment Video Channel on Office365
- ➢ OnTrack Information

STAAR Online Checklist

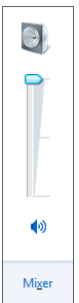For worry-free testing, here is the checklist ☺

Campus Online Team

- ☐ Supported computer image (**dark grey login screen**)
- ☐ Using the correct app (**Version 2.47 of the STAAR Secure Browser**)
- ☐ Before high stakes testing, students have

practiced with **practice tests or tutorials**, including Text to Speech (TTS). Here is the video on how to use TTS, courtesy of the students at Wisdom High School.

- ☐ Have **extra devices** (10% of testers) to swap for bad devices
- ☐ **Train all staff** about basic computer and secure browser troubleshooting and how to swap a malfunctioning device.
- ☐ Call the **Network Operations Center (NOC) at (713) 556-8800 if the network is slow or there is a loss in connectivity**.

Test Administrators

- ☐ **Always double check "for the right student / the right test"** before allowing students to login.
- ☐ **Turn off all cell phones** during cell phone collection to minimize use of bandwidth.
- ☐ **Face all screens toward the test administrator.**
- ☐ **Place students who have laptops with low batteries along the walls or near wall plugs.**
  Before opening the STAAR Secure Browser, Test Administrators ask students to:
- ☐ **Close all applications, unmute sound, and raise the volume to the maximum level.** Watch the video on how to do all this, courtesy of the students at Wisdom High School.
- ☐ **Disable Google Chrome extensions and VPNs**. Click on this link to watch how to disable Chrome extensions and VPNs, courtesy of the students at Wisdom High School.

You may find additional Online STAAR support resources at http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/159479

Grade 8 Technology Literacy Assessment (TLA)

Below are some helpful reminders for a stress-free TLA window.

- ☐ Login at http://login.learning.com
- ☐ **Use the campus login credentials given to you during training**
- ☐ The testing window is from Monday, April 17 to Friday, May 19. To better support you, **let us know which week you plan to test** by completing the form at this link http://bit.ly/2nGMdme.
- ☐ Assign the **TCEA Posttest 1617 – TA-TEKS Assessment. Do NOT assign the Pretest.** Assign the TCEA Posttest Part 1, Part 2, and the Survey. Parts 1

and 2 are required and both must be submitted by the student. The Survey is optional.

☐ Assign the required tests to your **math classes**.

☐ Ensure **not to test the same student twice** if he/she is in more than one Math class.

☐ For students who enroll in the middle of the testing window, please contact Student Assessment **to check if they have already been tested at another campus**.

You may find additional Grade 8 TLA support resources at http://www.houstonisd.org/Page/159482.

Goodbye EdPlan!

EdPlan will be used by HISD campuses for HISD Snapshots, Pre-Approved Assessments, and the End of Year (EOY) Benchmark Running Records **until May 31, 2017**. This means that all tests that need to be scored must be scanned and scored by May 31. **On June 1, all EdPlan assessment access will be removed, but campuses will be able to run EdPlan reports until June 30, 2017.** Learn more about the EdPlan phase-out here.

Hello OnTrack!

OnTrack, the new HISD formative assessment platform, will be used to administer the **HISD Summer Post Assessments and the Summer Benchmark Running Records**. All campuses were required to identify a Summer School Campus Test Coordinator (CTC). The Summer School CTC will receive information about the Summer School Post-Assessments, OnTrack Online Courses, and is encouraged to be one the three campus personnel to attend one of the scheduled Training-of Trainer (TOT) sessions (**OneSource Course #468001**) in May-June. As of May 1, 89 campuses had at least one person registered for the TOT training. Please refer to the May 1, 2017 academic service memo for additional information.

OnTrack Online Courses

Two OnTrack online courses are currently available in OneSource. **OnTrack Navigation Basics (Course #442001)** and **OnTrack Fundamental Skills (Course #443001)** are available for teachers and campus leaders to learn OnTrack basic skills, system navigation and how to

administer both a paper-based and online assessments. The best thing about the Fundamental Skills course is that the participants may choose the assessment administration (online or paper) track appropriate for them, or they may choose to learn both administration tracks. **The online courses will be available for schools to use with their faculties during the August pre-service week, if desired by the campus leadership teams**.

Online Testing Summer Academy for Windows, Mac, and Chrome

Get ready for great summer learning! The Open Lab Summer Academy is happening on **Tuesday and Wednesday, July 11-12**.

Morning Session 8:30 to 11:30
TE_Online Testing PC/MAC
Pick either Tuesday July 11 or Wednesday July 12
Location and course number to be announced soon

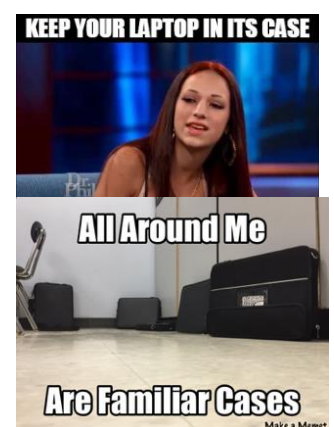**Afternoon Session 1:00 to 3:00**
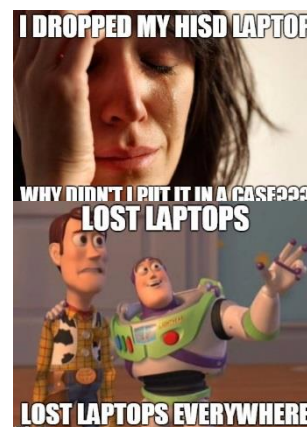**TE_Online Testing PC/Chromebook**
Pick either Tuesday July 11 or Wednesday July 12
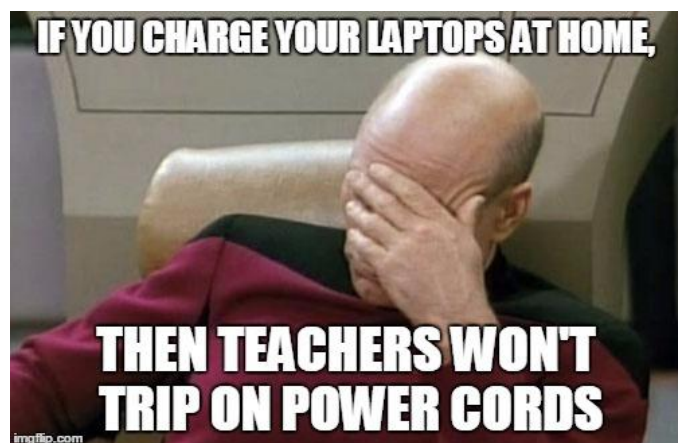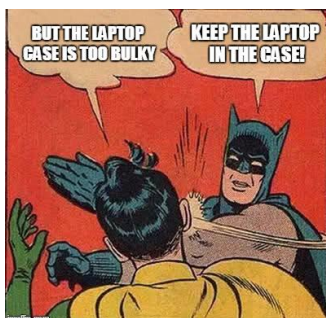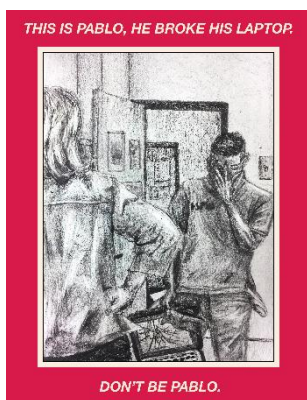Location and course number to be announced soon

Participants will receive hands-on training with PC, Mac, and Chromebook, how to setup online testing on these platforms, fixing common issues, tips and tricks, and access to the most up-to-date practical technical resources. **Attendees (non-admins) will receive $50 stipends. Please register on OneSource and bring your charged laptop.**

Take Care of your Laptop!

Reminding students to be responsible laptop caretakers is part of any solid PowerUp campaign. Below are some memes and posters from Ms. Patel's student Tech Squad.

THIS IS PABLO, HE BROKE HIS LAPTOP.

DON'T BE PABLO.

her: i never put my laptop in the case
me trying to impress her:
i also enjoy breaking expensive electronics

l♥ve your laptop.
• don't leave your laptop alone
• don't take it out of the case
• don't break its screen

BUT THE LAPTOP CASE IS TOO BULKY
KEEP THE LAPTOP IN THE CASE!

IF YOU CHARGE YOUR LAPTOPS AT HOME, THEN TEACHERS WON'T TRIP ON POWER CORDS

Big kudos to HSPVA Tech Squad members Christian Burgs, D.J. Carr, Jill Gardner, Kyndal Hutto, Samantha Laakso, Briah Napier, Cameron Ng, Seth Quintanilla, Nick Reyna, Pablo Rivera, Samantha Ruiz, Victoria Silvani, Jessica Thompson, and Fabian Villarreal. There are more memes and posters posted online. You may download HSPVA's memes and posters from the eAssessment Student Advisory Team page.

What was it like being in the eAssessment Student Advisory Team (eSAT)

By Jasmine Bailey, Senior at Chavez High School
I'm not even sure where to begin here! It has truly been amazing. It's like...you know that feeling when you see something wrong going on, and of course you secretly hold all your complaints to yourself but deep down you wish you could get them out and have something be done about them? I always have a million things running through my mind for how I can help others and one of those things was helping my fellow peers adapt to their laptops. Unfortunately, not all of us are blessed to have 30 technological devices like most of the younger generations seem to have today. I recall a conversation I had with my father who said when computers were just coming out, they had typing classes? How I do wonder where those went because they are still utterly crucial today! eSAT allowed me the chance to voice such concerns and even take action in implementing improvement plans in my own school. As of now, my teachers and plenty others are being more lenient when work is given to their students that must be done on their HISD laptops, because of the understanding that even we students don't know all the functions that may be needed to complete the task. And other students work together to pitch in and tutor those who need a little help on their laptops, and the learning flows on as our school slowly aids each student to be more efficient at using the device HISD has given us to prepare for our advanced futures.

Afterword by Mr. Gallardo, Yearbook Teacher at Chavez High School

Jasmine Bailey is one of those students, one of those persons, even, who you realize is outstanding right when you meet her. Her energy, positivism, enthusiasm is obvious from the moment you know her. I had the incredible luck of getting her on board for my Yearbook class during the second semester and her impact on the final product is evident. She has completed many pages, worked on the general design and (this is the piece that really touches my heart) written a fabulous article towards the end of the book that encapsulates to perfection the great things that we are doing here at Chavez High School.

She always communicates with great energy, enthusiasm, and positivism being an inspiration to people around her. She is involved in many extracurricular activities contributing greatly to her school and our district.

This awesome student is graduating on May 28th. She will be attending a college in Houston because she wants to work with the community where she lives. We will miss you and wish you all the best on your career and future endeavors!