



NNC

“Setting A New Standard for Excellence”

Nellie N. Coffman Middle School
34-603 Plumley Rd. Cathedral City, CA 92234

Carlos Flores, Principal
(760) 770-8617 fax (760) 770-8623

NAEP 2018 PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION LETTER
Civics, geography, and U.S. history assessments

December 15, 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Nellie N. Coffman Middle School will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on February 27, 2018. NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subjects. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from our state assessment because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

Your child might take an assessment in one of the following subjects: civics, geography, or U.S. history. In addition to subject area questions, NAEP survey questionnaires are voluntarily completed by students. The questionnaires provide valuable information about participating students' educational experiences and opportunities to learn both in and out of the classroom. More information is available at <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/parents> under the section “What Questions Does NAEP Ask?”

The assessment takes about 90 to 120 minutes for most students. The results are completely confidential (in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347).

The information collected is used for statistical purposes only.

- Your child's grades will not be affected.
- Students may be excused for any reason, are not required to complete the assessment, and may skip any question.
- While the assessment is voluntary, NAEP depends on student participation to help policymakers improve education. However, if you do not want your child to participate, please notify me in writing by **Friday, February 9th, 2018.**

There is no need to study in preparation for NAEP, but please encourage your child to do their best. A brochure that explains what participation in NAEP means for you and your child is available at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/parents/2012469.pdf>. Contact Lisa Todd at (760) 770-8617 or at ltodd@psusd.us if you have any questions.

We are excited that our school is participating in NAEP. We know that NNC's students will show what our nation's students know and can do.

Sincerely,

Carlos Flores
School Principal

NCES is authorized to conduct NAEP by the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. §9622) and to collect students' education records from education agencies or institutions for the purposes of evaluating federally supported education programs under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (FERPA, 34 CFR §§ 99.31(a)(3)(iii) and 99.35). The information your child provides will be used for statistical purposes only. In accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347 and other applicable Federal laws, your child's responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form to anyone other than employees or agents. By law, every NCES employee as well as every agent, such as contractors and NAEP coordinators, has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about your child. Electronic submission of your child's information will be monitored for viruses, malware, and other threats by Federal employees and contractors in accordance with the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015. The collected information will be combined across respondents to produce statistical reports.