



De-Mystifying the CAHSEE

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California High School Exit Exam

Pronounced “Kah-see,” “Kass-ee,”
“Kay-see” or “Exit Exam”

5 “W’s”: Who, What, Where,
When, Why?



WHAT is the CAHSEE?

One of 2 requirements for high school graduation:

- Pass all high school courses
- Pass both sections of the CAHSEE



WHY must students pass a high school exit exam?

- It's a California state law, enacted in 1999, to ensure that high school graduates can use math and read and write in English competently.



WHO must take the CAHSEE?

- All California high school students wishing to receive a high school diploma.



WHAT types of items are on the CAHSEE?

- **ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE ARTS**

- 72 multiple-choice questions and 1 essay
- State content standards through 10th grade

- **MATH**

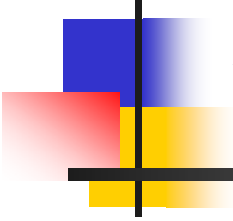
- 92 multiple-choice questions (only scored on 80)
- 6th grade math, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I



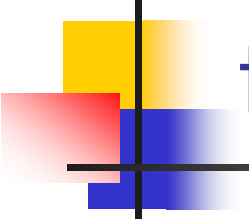
WHEN do students take the CAHSEE?

- Students must take the exam for the first time in the second part (February) of their 10th grade year.
- Offered 2-3 times a year (November, February, and May), depending on the district and school.
- 5-7 chances to pass!

This is middle school! *WHY*
are we talking about a high
school exit exam NOW?



The bulk of the CAHSEE tests
students on state standards
taught in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades!



How can my child prepare for the CAHSEE?

- Do well in middle and high school classes!
- Take practice tests. Can be found online at
- <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/mathguide.asp>
- <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/elaguide.asp>



WHAT are the odds of my child passing the CAHSEE?

- EXCELLENT!
- 2007 pass rate of 92% in El Dorado County high schools!
- Statewide 2007 pass rate of 76%.



WHAT happens if my child does not pass the CAHSEE?

- The school/district will offer extra Language Arts and Math instruction.
- There are more opportunities to pass!
- C.H.S.P.E. (age 16 and 11th grade)
- G.E.D. (age 18 or older)
- Adult Education
- Community College