Background:

Annually, all students in grades 3-8 and 11 are administered the Smarter Balanced Assessments in English language arts and mathematics. These assessments are taken in the spring and measure a student’s mastery of the California State Standards. The results of these assessments are used to inform the continuous improvement efforts of teachers and administrators as well as to inform parents of individual student learning. The results are also used by the State as accountability metrics that are updated in the California Dashboard for Public Schools in November/December of each year.

Summary:

The results of the 2019 administration of the Smarter Balanced Assessments indicate that, Districtwide, scaled score performance and the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards increased in both English language arts and mathematics.

Districtwide, the number of students meeting or exceeding standards in English language arts increased by 3% to 74%, and average scaled score performance increased by 8 points and sits at 47 points above the Met Standard level.

A 5% increase in students meeting or exceeding English language arts standards was obtained by students who are identified as either Socio-Economically Disadvantaged or Students with Disability. English Learners improved performance by 8%.

Districtwide, the number of students meeting or exceeding standards in mathematics increased by 2% to 67%, and average scaled score performance increased by 6 points and sits at 31 points above the Met Standard level.

A 3% increase in students meeting or exceeding mathematics standards was obtained by students who are identified as Socio-Economically Disadvantaged. Students with Disabilities improved by 2% and English Learners increased by 5%.
The fact that average scaled score performance increased by more than 3 points in both English language arts and mathematics is important as it constitutes growth/improvement according to State Accountability requirements and the District’s Local Control Accountability Plans. **The overall scaled score performance for both assessments continues to be in the High performance range according to the State’s accountability system.**

In conclusion, the results reflect that classroom practices are increasingly aligned with the State’s standards and assessments. **Teachers, principals, and staff should all be congratulated for continuing to collaboratively reinforce the most effective practices and identify areas for improvement.** Each site will be conducting an in-depth review of student results in the coming weeks and their findings will be used to inform the development of each site’s Single Plan for Student Achievement as well as teacher collaboration and professional development activities.

**Parents/guardians too must be congratulated for the progress made by students on these assessments.** The efforts of families to ensure students are reading at home each night, that they are practicing mathematical thinking with everyday problems, developing good work habits, persisting in the face of challenge, and consistently attending school all supports the work of our educators.

**The whole community should be proud of the continued progress of students in Buckeye Union!**