



August 22, 2014 Special Board Meeting Highlights

The following is a review of topics discussed and actions taken during the special meeting of the State Board of Education (SBE) held August 22, 2014, at the SBE office in Olympia, Wash.

1. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS

SBE approved the following:

- Cut Score for the Biology Collection of Evidence
- Revisited Cut Score for the Math Year 1 Collection of Evidence
- Private Schools for School Year 2014-2015

2. CUT SCORES

The Board is required to identify the scores high school students must achieve to meet standard in statewide student assessments and obtain a certificate of academic achievement. Students obtain the certificate of academic achievement by passing the required state assessments or an approved alternative assessment. The collection of evidence (COE), an approved alternative assessment available for students who have failed the state test two times, consists of a collection of student work samples, prepared by the student in a classroom environment, with instructional support from a teacher. Alternative assessments such as COE must be of equal rigor to the required state assessment.

In March 2014, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) presented the process for developing the cut scores for the biology collection of evidence and the revisited math year 1 collection of evidence. The Board reviewed and approved the process.

At this special board meeting, Michael Middleton, Director, Alternative Assessments, OSPI and Dr. Tom Hirsch, consultant, presented the recommended cut scores developed through the approved process, in accordance with nationally accepted practices. They relayed the recommended cut scores of 41 for the biology collection of evidence and 24 for the math year 1 collection of evidence.

3. NEXT BOARD MEETING

September 9-11, 2014, at the North Central ESD in Wenatchee, Wash.

Visit our website (www.sbe.wa.gov/materials.php) for additional information or call the board office at: 360-725-6025.