

**STATE ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

**BACKGROUND**

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) implemented new tests called Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) for grades 3-8 and the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) this spring for all students. The MSP and HSPE have some changes from the previous tests, including the elimination of extended responses. Some middle school students took the test online; the rest of the students used paper and pencil. A phase in for all students to take the test online will be implemented over the next few years. These assessments measure how well our students perform on our state standards. The assessments are also used to fulfill the testing requirements under No Child Left Behind. The Classes of 2011 and 2012 high school students must meet the high school standards in reading and writing assessments to receive a diploma. For the class of 2013, students will also be required to meet the math and science standards.

The reading, writing, and science assessment were based on standards that have not been changed in five years. The math tests were based on the new math standards adopted two years ago and thus comparisons to previous years under the old math standards should be taken cautiously. In 2011 OSPI will have end of course math exams in Algebra I and Geometry for high school students. The SBE will set the cut scores for those exams in August 2011. The assessments for the new science standards will be implemented next year. If the Common Core English and Math standards are adopted, new assessments could be implemented at the earliest by 2014-15. The Smarter Based Consortium that Washington has joined along with 30 other states will be examining the creation of these new assessments using the Common Core standards. The Consortium received \$160 million to begin its work.

The 2010 MSP/HSPE results showing the difference in percent meeting standard from 2009 to 2010 are displayed in the chart below:

	Reading	Math	Writing	Science
<b>Grade 3</b>	0.6	-4.6		
<b>Grade 4</b>	-6.5	1.3	0.6	
<b>Grade 5</b>	-4.5	-8.3		-10.9
<b>Grade 6</b>	-7.5	0.9		
<b>Grade 7</b>	4.0	3.4	0.4	
<b>Grade 10</b>	-2.4	-3.8	-0.8	5.9

The 2010 Results for the 10<sup>th</sup> Grade (Class of 2012) in percent meeting standard are as follows:

	Reading	Math	Writing	Science
<b>Grade 10</b>	78.8	41.6	85.9	44.7

There continue to be major achievement gaps in reading, writing, math and science between the Asian and White students and those of American Indians, Black, Hispanic and Pacific Islanders. OSPI will provide more detailed information at the meeting.

In terms of meeting standards in reading and math for Adequate Yearly Progress under No Child Left Behind, 1,143 schools (54.1 percent) met standard in 2010 and 968 schools (45.9 percent) did not.

### **POLICY CONSIDERATION**

Policy questions the Board may wish to discuss:

- What are the implications for the Class of 2013 and beyond based on the current math and science performance of tenth graders?
- What are the strategies that OSPI is employing to help students of color and low income meet our state standards based upon the continued significant gaps in performance on all areas?
- What are OSPI's plans for students in the Class of 2013 that have already taken algebra and geometry before end of course exams were implemented?
- What are OSPI's plans for students in the Class of 2014 that have already taken biology before an end of course exam is implemented?

### **EXPECTED ACTION**

No action needed. The SBE may want to suggest discussion questions for the November meeting when a deeper discussion of ways to improve math and science achievement will be on the agenda.