



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A high-quality education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.

UPDATE ON 2018 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Prepared for the November 2018 Board Meeting

As related to:

Goal One: Develop and support policies to close the achievement and opportunity gaps.

Goal Two: Develop comprehensive accountability, recognition, and supports for students, schools, and districts.

Goal Three: Ensure that every student has the opportunity to meet career and college ready standards.

Goal Four: Provide effective oversight of the K-12 system.

Other

Relevant to Board roles:

Policy Leadership

System Oversight

Advocacy

Communication

Convening and facilitating

Policy considerations/Key questions:

- What is the status of continued implementation of Smarter Balanced Assessments and the Washington Comprehensive Science Assessment in Washington?
- What do testing results from 2018 indicate about our system?

Materials included in packet:

- State Board of Education section of a report to the Legislature on the state assessment system produced annually by OSPI. This provides background information for this meeting segment, and summarizes Board actions on assessments during the past year. This is one of two reports to the Legislature involving the Board. The second report will be submitted by the Board and is a one-time report on setting the achievement level scores for the 10th grade high school Smarter Balanced assessments.
- Presentation by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) Assessment Office.

Synopsis:

The Board will hear a presentation from Dr. Deb Came, Assistant Superintendent, Student Information and Assessment. The 2018 administration of the Smarter Balanced Assessments was the third full implementation of the assessments in Washington. Because of legislation passed in 2017 (ESHB 2224), the high school test was shifted from primarily an 11th grade test to primarily a 10th grade test. As a result, both 10th graders and 11th graders took the tests in 2018. Smarter Balanced Assessments were also administered to students in grades three through eight. The science assessment was administered for the first time this spring to all students in grades 5, 8, and 11. Results of the 2018 state assessments may inform the Board in decisions about state assessment policy. Under current law, the Smarter Balanced Assessments, along with a system of alternatives, are used as exit exams. The science assessment will be a graduation requirement for the Class of 2021. The Board has adopted a qualified [position](#) to eliminate the use of these assessments as high school exit exams.

State Board of Education's Activities and Role

This section of the report summarizes the activities of the State Board of Education (SBE) concerning the state assessment system in 2018 and actions of the Board that are anticipated for 2019.

Statute directs the SBE to provide consultation to the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) in the development and maintenance of the assessment system ([RCW 28A.655.070\(3\)\(a\)](#)) and identify the scores needed to show proficiency on state assessments and approved alternative assessments, as well as the scores needed on high school exit exams ([RCW 28A.305.130](#)).

In 2018, the Legislature directed the SBE (ESHB 2224), in consultation with OSPI, to identify the performance standard for tenth grade students to be on-track for career and college readiness, and report on this score to the Governor, and the education and fiscal committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2018. In July, September and November 2017, the SBE held initial discussions with OSPI and the Smarter Balanced Consortium regarding setting these scores, and in January 2018 the Board adopted these scores.

Also in January, 2018, the Board extensively reviewed and discussed the system of high school assessment. As a result, the Board adopted a position on exit exams that states that:

If the Legislature reconsiders policies related to mandatory state tests linked to graduation, the State Board of Education will support legislation that delinks the passing of statewide assessments from graduation requirements, provided that:

- 1) State standards in math, English Language Arts, and science are not diminished;
- 2) State assessment results are still used as part of the State's achievement index, including results by school and district;
- 3) Test participation rates remain a focus of emphasis consistent with the expectations of the Every Student Succeeds Act (95% participation rate); and
- 4) Student-level results from the 10th grade English Language Arts and math assessments and 11th grade Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science will be used to inform student course taking in subsequent terms to focus on growth and progress to achieve high school proficiency and career and college readiness.

Activities of the Board in 2018

Board actions in 2018 are summarized in Table 13 with links to additional information.

Table 13: SBE’s Work on Assessments During 2018

Meeting	Activity	Links
January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board approved achievement level scores recommended by OSPI for the 10th grade math and ELA Smarter Balanced Assessment • The Board approved the process recommended by OSPI for score-setting on the WCAS • The Board adopted a position statement on high school assessments linked to graduation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBE cover sheet and OSPI presentation on 10th Grade Smarter Balanced Assessments. • OSPI presentation on Setting Achievement Levels on the WCAS • SBE cover and memo on Legislative Position on Assessment Requirements and Alternatives • SBE position statement on high school assessments linked to graduation
August 2018	The Board approved achievement level scores on the WCAS and the WA-AIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSPI presentation on scores for WCAS and WA-AIM
November 2018	OSPI provided an update to the Board on 2018 testing results and participation rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November Board meeting materials

Activities of the board for 2019

Anticipated activities include:

- Advocate for reinstating the expedited appeal option as a way eligible students can meet the assessment graduation requirement.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to develop a model for students earning competency credit for high school students who pass state assessments.
- Support work with partners on the development and implementation of Bridge to College courses.
- Approval of scores, if needed, for WCAS alternatives.