

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – TOPIC SUMMARY

Topic: Oregon Alternate Assessment: Standard Setting Process

Date: April 9, 2015

Staff/Office: Brad Lenhardt, Mitch Kruska/OLSS; Gerald Tindal, Dan Farley/BRT (U of Oregon)

Action Requested: Informational Only Adoption Later Adoption

Adoption/Consent Agenda

ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

- Oregon Alternate Assessment-Alternate Achievement Standards Update: Standard Setting Process

BACKGROUND:

With the development of the new 2014-15 Oregon Alternate Assessment based on Alternate Achievement Standards (“Extended Assessment”) linked to Oregon’s new ELA, Math, and Science content standards, there is a need to establish new alternate achievement standards (i.e., Achievement Level Descriptors and Cut Scores). The following is a brief description of the alternate achievement standards setting process established for 2014-2015.

Standard Setting – Oregon Alternate (Extended) Assessment

In mid-June, performance standards for the extended assessment in grades 3-8 and 11 will be set in Science (June 15), English-Language Arts (June 16), and Mathematics (June 17). Teachers will be grouped into teams of 3-4 teachers (general and special education) at each grade level (and content area). Each team will be given a handout that reflects the purpose of this effort: to organize performance scores into four groups consisting of “Exceeds Proficient (Level 4), Proficient (Level 3), Nearly Proficient (Level 2), and Well Below Proficient (Level 1)”*. Teachers will be given specific directions on the standard setting process and provided test booklets that will present each item with its corresponding standard and ordered on item difficulty. Per their work, teams will (a) discuss the reasons for making their judgments and (b) reach consensus. The new performance standards will be forwarded for submission to the State Board in June.

*Assignment of names to Levels has not been finalized at this time.

POLICY QUESTIONS: None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: None