

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – TOPIC SUMMARY

Topic: Alternate Achievement Standards (i.e., new cut scores)

Date: June 25, 2015

Staff/Office: Office of Learning/Student Services Unit; ISAA Unit; Guest: BRT/VO (AA test vendor)

Action Requested: Information only Policy Adoption Adoption Adoption/Consent
Agenda

ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

The cut scores set for the Extended Assessment must be reviewed by the board prior to adoption for state reporting.

BACKGROUND:

The Extended Assessment system is the state's alternate assessment that allows for the statewide assessment of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Individual Education Plan (IEP) teams determine whether or not a student is eligible for the Extended Assessment, and those that take the assessment (within minimum participation guidelines) count toward AMO participation. Because alternate achievement standards measure student achievement according to grade level content that has been reduced in depth, breadth, and complexity and are therefore different from the standards applied to students taking the general assessment, there is a cap of 1% of a district's assessments based on alternate achievement standards that receive a "meets" or "exceeds" that are allowed to count toward AMO performance.

With the development of the new 2014-15 Oregon Alternate (Extended) Assessment based on Alternate Achievement Standards linked to Oregon's new ELA, Math, and Science content standards, there is a need to establish new cut scores. The cut scores associated with the assessment have been readjusted by a panel of experts (e.g., special education teachers, content specialists, data analysts, and university alternate assessment researchers). The outcome of these deliberations (i.e., new cut scores) are presented to the board for final adoption and for AMO state reporting.

POLICY QUESTIONS:

No policy questions. Alternate achievement standards are required in federal guidance.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt revised cut scores as proposed.