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Thursday, January 28, 2021

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Further NAEP Activities for 2020-2021

On November 25, 2020, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) announced plans to postpone the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2021 mathematics and reading assessments until the 2021-2022 school year. At that time, NCES also proposed a NAEP 2021 School and Teacher Questionnaire Special Study. The Oregon Department of Education has opted out of this voluntary study. Therefore, the districts and schools selected for NAEP 2021 will not receive further communications regarding NAEP for this school year. Contact [Beth LaDuca](#) at 503-947-5836 with questions.

Online Reporting System Webinars REPEAT

To support users in the transition to the 2020-2021 Online Reporting System (ORS), ODE and CAI have scheduled two **optional** webinars focusing on how to use the newly-redesigned ORS:

- **Tuesday, March 16** from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. PT
- **Thursday, March 18** from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. PT

The same material will be covered in both trainings. While these webinars are open to any ORS user role, you must [register](#) in advance if you want to attend a webinar. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about how to log into the webinar. Please contact your [Regional ESD Partner](#) with questions.

TEST ADMINISTRATION

ELPA

Comprehensive ELPA Guidance Update Published REPEAT

ODE's guidance document *Administering the ELPA Screener in 2020-21* has been comprehensively updated. It now includes information on English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Summative testing, "unique screening" in 2021, and has been

reviewed for consistency with recent updates to statewide health and safety guidance. This document, which has been retitled as [Administering the ELPA Screener and Summative in 2020-21](#), can be found on the [ELP Assessment page](#), under the Guidance pulldown.

[Administering the ELPA Screener and Summative in 2020-21](#) can also be found on the [Assessment Training Materials page](#), under the Training Modules pulldown. As it updates a required ELPA training material, district personnel who will administer the ELPA Screener or Summative in 2020-21 must review this updated guidance.

Please contact [Ben Wolcott](#) with questions or concerns.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

NEW OSAS ELA Anchor Papers Released **REPEAT**

The Oregon Department of Education in collaboration with Smarter Balanced is pleased to share the [Smarter Annotated Response Tool \(SmART\)](#). This new interactive website contains new resources to support educators in understanding how student writing is scored on the Oregon Statewide Summative Assessment for English language arts using the Smarter Balanced scoring rubrics. ODE and Smarter Balanced have worked with both Oregon educators and other state educators to develop annotations that describe grade-level expectations and identify the specific traits that contribute to a student's score.

Educators can use SmART for a variety of purposes, including to:

- gain insight into grade-level expectations for each score point of each trait scored for ELA full writes,
- learn about specific qualities of high-scoring responses to help inform classroom writing instruction, and
- create professional development materials for teachers who might be unfamiliar with, or desire more practice scoring student writing.

For additional questions related to the SmART website and tools, please refer to the [SmART informational flyer \(PDF\)](#) or contact [Tony Bertrand](#), ELA Assessment Specialist.

ACCOUNTABILITY & REPORTING

Staff Position Audit Review Window Opens Today

The Staff Position Collection will reopen today, **January 28, 2021 at 1 PM** for the Audit Review Window, and it will remain open through **Friday, February 5, 2021**. During this time, all Staff Position submitters should log in to review their audits. The audit manual can be found on the [Staff Position Resources page](#), or you may contact [Ryan Clark](#) at 503-947-5632 or your [Regional ESD Partners](#) with questions.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Screener

Q: [Administering the ELPA Summative and Screener in 2020-21](#) indicates that Future K scoring will change on March 1, 2021. What should TAs do to make sure Future K Screener scores are appropriately applied?

A: Starting on March 1, 2021, all students testing on the Future K Screener are considered Proficient if they score a 3 or higher in all non-exempt domains.

TAs should be aware that the Individual Student Reports (ISRs) for the Future K Screener will continue to reflect the old scoring scheme until updates are applied in the annual “system rollover” (late July 2021). Therefore, prior to the July system rollover, TAs should *manually check all Future K Screener score reports* to verify whether the student is Proficient. If the student is Proficient according to the new rule, the district should *ignore the proficiency designation printed on the ISR* and report the student as initially fluent (not an EL).

English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Summative

Q: I read [Administering the ELPA Summative and Screener in 2020-21](#), but I just want to be sure—how can students exit status in 2020-21?

A: Both the ELPA Summative and unique screening are possible routes to exit. A Proficient result on the ELPA Summative means the student will exit English learner (EL) status, just as in any other year. Students who do not participate in Summative testing will be eligible for a unique screening opportunity. A Proficient result during unique screening indicates the student no longer needs English language services; this student would also exit EL status.

Q: Are there any accountability consequences associated with the ELPA Summative this year? In my district, we are unlikely to be able to test all eligible students.

A: While the US Department of Education (USED) has not yet made final determinations about accountability in Oregon for the 2020-21 school year, we believe it is highly unlikely that any accountability requirement will be attached to ELPA participation in 2020-21. USED developed an addendum for states to make state accountability waiver from accountability requirements more efficient. USED has also supported statements to the effect that assessment and accountability must be “decoupled” in 2020-21 during engagements with states.

For districts participating in EL Outcomes, also known as HB 3499, there may be expectations unique to the district. Please reach out to your regular ODE contact for HB 3499 for more detail.

Q: How late is too late to open an ELPA Summative opportunity? [Administering the ELPA Summative and Screener in 2020-21](#) says that partial completion of the ELPA Summative counts as participation, so a student who opens but does not finish the ELPA Summative is not eligible for unique screening.

A: Districts will need to consult local factors to determine at what point there is no longer sufficient time to open a new ELPA Summative opportunity for a student. However, because the unique screening window opens almost immediately after the Summative window closes (and extends until 12/17/21), we recommend that if there is doubt a student can complete the Summative within the testing window, districts wait and test the student via unique screening.

Please contact [Ben Wolcott](#) with questions or concerns related to ELPA testing.