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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2020-21 Updated Forms **REPEAT**

The Assessment Team has updated all parent opt-out communications to be electronically fillable, where appropriate, and also to ensure that we have identified the correct test window for ELA, math, and science assessments (both general and alternate), which is **April 13, 2021 through June 11, 2021**. All of the documents are now posted on the Assessment Team webpage. You will find all of the updated documents at the following links:

- 2020-21 Annual Notice for Statewide Tests (Updated 3/10/21)
 - [English Annual Notice](#)
 - [Spanish Annual Notice](#)
- 2020-21 30-day Notice and Opt-out Form (Updated 3/10/21)
 - [English combined 30-day notice and opt-out form](#)
 - [English Parent Communication](#)
 - [Spanish combined 30-day notice and opt-out form](#)
 - [Spanish Parent Communication](#)

Please contact [Dan Farley](#), Director of Assessment, if you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations. We are working on developing answers to the questions we received this yesterday morning, as well, and hope to share those with you all soon.

SEED Survey to Launch April 13, 2021 **REPEAT**

ODE has developed a student-facing survey known as the Student Educational Equity Development (SEED) Survey. This survey will help the Oregon Department of Education gather information about the educational experiences of students in Oregon, which in turn will help ODE target resources and supports, and better interpret information already being gathered through statewide testing. The survey window will be open **April 13, 2021 through June 11, 2021**.

A Communication Toolkit for the survey can be found on the [SEED Survey page](#). This toolkit includes an overview of the survey, communication templates for parents and staff, and survey specifications.

Because the survey is non-secure, the full version of the SEED Survey has been posted to the SEED Survey page for all grade levels.

ODE encourages district participation and has streamlined the training and administration process to maximize survey efficiency. Options for administration include in-person or remote administration in both proctored and non-proctored formats. During this pilot year, participation in the SEED Survey is optional for districts, but we sincerely hope you will participate and contribute to a greater understanding of student educational experiences in Oregon.

Please contact [Noelle Gorbett](#), Assessment Specialist, with any questions or concerns.

SEED Survey Clarification on Parent Consent REPEAT

Districts are not required to obtain parent consent before delivering the survey; however, it is good practice to give parents sufficient notice of the survey so they have an understanding of the purpose of the survey and an opportunity to notify the district that they do not want their child to participate. There is no stated requirement for notification within a minimum number of days prior to the survey. Please see the SEED Survey Staff Communication and FAQ Template and Parent Communication Templates in the [SEED Survey Communication Toolkit](#).

The specific method (email, paper mail, automated call, website posting, etc.) for communicating this information to parents is at the district's discretion; however, we advise districts to consider which forms of communication will be most effective.

Please contact [Noelle Gorbett](#), Assessment Specialist, with any questions or concerns.

2021 OSAS Math Item Developers Needed REPEAT

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is seeking educators interested in developing mathematics items for the high school assessments within the Oregon Statewide Assessment System. Item development will take place remotely in June 2021, after the completion of the 2020-21 school year. The commitment includes both synchronous and asynchronous time for training, item drafting, and review of items. Interested applicants should complete [this application](#) by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021**. ODE will notify successful applicants on Monday, March 29, 2021, along with information on next steps. Selected applicants will participate in a required initial orientation in April; the specific date and time will be determined via an online poll. Item authors will then asynchronously complete a series of short training modules before drafting items in June. Synchronous support will be available continually throughout the project. Item authors should plan for a 20 hour commitment, which will be completed no later than Friday, July 2, 2021.

For additional information, please refer to the complete [recruitment letter](#) or contact [Andy Byerley](#), Mathematics Assessment Specialist.

Recruitment Open for “Tools for Teachers” Instructional Resource Authors REPEAT

For the first time in Oregon, recruitment is open for the State Network of Educators (SNE) Virtual Summer Workshops scheduled for **June 14-18** and **July 12-16, 2021**. SNE Workshops provide educators with an in-depth opportunity to learn the formative assessment process as they contribute to the critical work of building new instructional resources for Tools for Teachers. The [SNE Workshop Recruitment page](#) includes workshop information including timelines, agendas, FAQ, and more. Interested ELA and math educators should complete the [“Save the Date”](#) form by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021**.

Learn more about [Tools for Teachers](#) in this YouTube video. For more information on the State Network of Educators, please contact [Andy Byerley](#), Mathematics Assessment Specialist, or [Tony Bertrand](#), ELA and Social Sciences Assessment Specialist.

ACCOUNTABILITY & REPORTING

Informal Accountability Webinar, March 30

ODE hosts a webinar on the last Tuesday of every month to discuss accountability topics. **The next webinar is March 30 at 2:00 p.m.** If you have a topic that you would like addressed during the webinar, please submit it through the [“Informal Accountability Webinar Open Call Agenda form”](#) or via email.

When you [register to participate](#) you will automatically be registered for all webinar dates in the series. You are encouraged but not required to attend every webinar. For questions, please contact [Elyse Bean](#).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ELPA Summative and Screener

Q: We can't see the desired ELPA test in the testing portal. What causes this and how can we fix it?

A: There are two main reasons for inability to see an English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) Screener or Summative.

- **If the TA cannot see the desired test:** the Test Administrator (TA) may need appropriate test permissions activated. TA test permissions are overseen by the District Testing Coordinator (DTC). If a DTC needs test permissions activated, they should contact their [Regional ESD Partner](#).
- **If the student cannot see the desired test:** the student's EL Flag may be incorrectly set. Students with an EL Flag set to “Y” can only see the ELPA Summative. Students with an EL Flag set to “N” can only see the ELPA Screener. This is one reason why districts are instructed to use Temporary IDs for unique screening (not the student's SSID).

It is a good idea to check test permissions/EL Flag settings in the Test Information Delivery Engine (TIDE) prior to ELPA testing. Districts experiencing difficulty with ELPA testing that is not covered by either of these factors should contact their [Regional ESD Partner](#) or the [OSAS Helpdesk](#).

Q: [Administering the ELPA Screener and Summative in 2020-21](#) states that parent consent is required for ELPA Summative testing, and that parents have a right to decline a unique screening opportunity. Are those the same thing? If not, how do they differ?

A: The two are very similar, but they are not the same. While parents, guardians, and adult students have a right to decline a unique screening opportunity, [Administering the ELPA Screener and Summative in 2020-21](#) does not require the district to obtain unequivocal consent before testing. This is most likely to arise in situations where the decision-making parent or guardian cannot be contacted, or contact is made but a clear decision is not communicated. A few examples are provided below.

Situation	2021 ELPA Summative	2021 unique screening
Parent accepts testing	Test	Test
Parent refuses testing	Do not test	Do not test
Parent decision unclear, even after multiple attempts	Do not test	District may test*
Parent cannot be contacted, even after multiple attempts	Do not test	District may test*

*Receiving English language services is a civil right. If instruction is occurring and the parent/guardian cannot be contacted or a clear decision cannot be obtained, the district may decide to proceed with unique screening sooner rather than later in order to ensure that a student receives appropriate instruction in a timely manner.

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