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Thursday, December 17, 2020

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oregon Statewide Assessment and Accountability Waiver – Resources & Public Comment Process

As part of Oregon Department of Education’s (ODE) [plan to request a temporary pause](#) to specific statewide assessment and accountability, ODE will extend the public comment period related to our statewide assessment and accountability waiver request.

Public comment will now run through Monday, January 11, 2021 to allow more time for Oregonians who have expressed interest in participating. Public comment had originally closed on December 15.

Public comment for such a request is required in federal statute [Every Student Succeeds Act, Section 8401(b)].

The following resources support ODE’s adherence to the public comment process required in ESSA.

The Executive Summary provides a two-page overview of the strategic waiver request. The Complete Version of the draft strategic waiver is also provided, in addition to a Video Overview that addresses pressing questions about the waiver and public comment process.

- [Executive Summary of the strategic waiver request](#)
- [Complete Version of ODE’s strategic waiver request](#)
- [Video Overview explaining the strategic waiver request](#)

Public comments can be emailed to

WaiverFeedback@ode.state.or.us and will be reviewed prior to further decisions regarding submission of the request to the United States Department of Education.

Assessment Team in the Office of Teaching, Learning, & Assessment at ODE welcomes Caitlin Gonzales

Please join the Assessment Team in welcoming Caitlin Gonzales as our new Special Education Assessment Specialist. Caitlin will be running our Oregon Extended Assessment, managing our training and guidance around accessibility supports for all of our statewide

summative assessments, and weaving into our Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessment (Alt-ELPA) test development process. Caitlin is a veteran educator with almost 20 years of experience. She has taught both general and special education students in public and charter schools in Oregon, California, and her home state of Arizona. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Arizona and Master Degrees in Educational Leadership and Special Education from Northern Arizona University. Caitlin comes to this role from the Gresham-Barlow School District where she served as an Instructional Facilitator of Secondary Schools and a Behavior Intervention Specialist for the past five years. She was responsible for overseeing the Oregon Extended Assessment as a Qualified Trainer. In this role she found her niche and passion for all things assessment, supporting equitable practices for our most exceptional students in the process, and parlaying this passion into this new position. Caitlin will be starting in this new role Monday, December 21. Welcome, Caitlin!

Student Survey Item Fairness and Sensitivity Review Panel Recruitment

Oregon Department of Education's Office of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment is seeking individuals to participate in an online review of items for a student survey. The purpose of the item review is to ensure the high quality and fairness of items presented to 3rd-11th grade students.

A meeting will be held on **January 21 at 4:00-5:00 p.m.** to provide training and review instructions. Participants will be assigned a small set of potential items to review on their own time (estimated 1-2 hours). This is a voluntary, unpaid meeting. Upon submission of the feedback form by 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2021, participants will be provided with PDUs for their time.

[Applications](#) will be accepted until **8:00 a.m., January 11, 2021**. Successful applicants will be notified via email with a meeting link by 5:00 p.m., January 15, 2021.

For more information, please contact [Noelle Gorbett](#), Science Assessment Specialist.

ACCOUNTABILITY & REPORTING

Graduation and Dropout Validations Reminder

The NCES Dropout and Graduation Rate Validation and the Four and Five Year Cohort Graduation Rate Validations in the [Achievement Data Insight](#) (ADI) closed last Friday, December 11. However, changes made to the ADM data affecting these rates by 5 p.m. Monday, December 14 will be included in today's refresh. Since these validations are now closed, be sure to select the "All" tab in the top right corner of your screen to view these validations and the refreshed data. ADM changes made by **5 p.m. Monday, December 28**, still might be included in the final refresh on December 31, 2020, but are not guaranteed to be a part of this refresh.

For resources, please view the [two trainings](#) (Oct. 1 and Oct. 15) that cover the graduation/dropout process and review the [Cohort](#) and [Exit Adjustment/Dropout](#) manuals. These data will be publicly released in January, 2021 (TBD). If you have any questions, please contact your [Regional ESD Partner](#) or [Robin Stalcup](#).