

# Assessment of Essential Skills Review Panel

## DRAFT - Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2019

**Friday, January 11, 2019**

**Panel Members Present:** Garrett Apland, John Bouchard, Ralph Brown, Lori Cullen Brown, Robin DeLoach, Melissa Glover, Shaun Gross, Ellen Irish, Jay Mathisen, Krista Nieraeth, Doug Nelson, Laurie Corliss, Jill Sumerlin, Larry Susuki, Tenneal Wetherell

**Panel Members Absent:** Michelle Cummings, Sarah Cunningham, Marie Shimer, Marilyn Williams

**Facilitating:** Dan Farley, Tony Bertrand

**ODE Attendance:** Lacey Rhoades, Steve Slater, Cristen McLean, Tina Roberts, Brad Lenhardt

### Welcome and Agenda Overview

Tony Bertrand called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and reviewed the agenda with the Assessment of Essential Skills Review Panel (AESRP) members.

#### I. **9:00 - 9:05 Agenda Review, Meeting Norms, Public Participation, ODE Required Training Review**

Tony Bertrand addressed the Assessment of Essential Skills Review Panel (AESRP) members around public meeting statute and guidance for AESRP meetings. The Public Meetings Law guarantees the public the right to attend governing body meetings, but does not include the right to participate by public testimony; ORS 192.630(1). Meeting norms reviewed with AESRP members. Reminder to AESRP members on the requirement and completion of the DAS - CHRO - Maintaining a Harassment Free and Professional Workplace training.

#### II. **9:05 - 9:10 Review of Minutes**

Tony Bertrand shared the September 28, 2018, AESRP Minutes with panel members. Robin DeLoach provided feedback on the September 28, 2018 minutes to reflect a change with the phrasing of EL to native language in regards to EL policy update information communicated. There was no opposition and minutes were revised. John Buchard motioned to approve the minutes from September 28, 2018. Lori Cullen Brown seconded the motion. The majority were in favor with 15 voting to approve minutes; 0 opposed; 0 abstain; 4 absent.

Motion passed.

#### III. **9:10 - 9:20 Updates**

##### a. **ODE Assessment Staffing**

Dan Farley presented staffing updates within ODE Assessment: Bryan Toller transitioned to the Director of Mathematics for Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium in December 2018. Kathleen Vanderwall has recently re-joined the ODE Assessment Team to support the development of science items and Local Performance Assessments. Kirsten Aspengren has joined the ODE Assessment Team to support website management, document accessibility support conversions, and parent communications.

##### b. **GED Mathematical Reasoning Update**

Dan Farley provided AESRP members with an update on the status of the GED Mathematical Reasoning option to the Oregon State Board of Education. Oregon State Board of Education approved AESRP's recommendation for GED Mathematical Reasoning of 156 at the December 6, 2018 meeting.

**c. GED English Languages Arts Update**

Dan Farley provided AESRP members with an update on the status of the GED English Language Arts Reasoning option to the Oregon State Board of Education. The Oregon Department of Education has followed up on clarification for GED ELA being reported by reading and writing. This option is not available.

**d. ASVAB Update**

Tony Bertrand provided AESRP members with an update on the status of the ASVAB option to the Oregon State Board of Education. The Oregon Department of Education has followed up with the ASVAB representative in an effort to access technical documents. ODE will discontinue pursuing ASVAB as an "Other Standardized Assessment Option" due to lack of available technical documents.

**e. EL Policy Update**

Tony Bertrand introduced the EL Policy Update and Dan Farley provided AESRP members with an update on the status of the English Language Proficiency requirement (OAR 581-022-2120). ODE will continue to work with the English Learner Advisory Group to develop our recommendation to the Oregon State Board of Education in Spring 2019. AESRP's role if additional guidance is requested will be limited to setting cut score recommendations for ELPA 21 to the State Board of Education if necessary.

AESRP members were presented, as a reminder, the current guidance on Essential Skills for English Learner criteria and the three current proposed options: remove the Essential Skills provision, revise the Essential Skills provision, or retain the Essential Skills provision. Retaining the current Essential Skills provision would require AESRP to set a new proficiency requirement.

**IV. 9:20 – 9:35 Official Writing Scoring Guide – Gender Language Use**

Tony Bertrand presented on a potential change to the Official Writing Scoring Guide and the inclusion of footnote guidance on the use of gender neutral language in Work Samples for demonstrating Writing Essential Skills. AESRP members were provided a timeline ODE engaged in with stakeholders prior to bringing information to the AESRP panel. In October, the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) released a Position Statement: "Statement on Gender and Language" October 25, 2018.

The English Language Arts Content and Assessment Advisory Panel crafted the following footnote to be presented to AESRP as a potential revision to the Official Writing Scoring Guide: *ODE has adopted the Position Statement guidance from the National Council of Teachers of English, "Statement on Gender and Language" October 25, 2018. Use of gender-neutral language is permissible in student work.*

Tenneal Wetherell motioned to approve the NCTE Position Statement: Statement on Gender and Language footnote to the Official Writing Scoring Guide. Shaun Gross seconded the motion. The majority were in favor with 15 voting to approve; 0 opposed; 0 abstain; 4 absent.

Motion passed.

**V. 9:35 – 9:45 Update of the Other Standardized Assessment Option Form**

ODE updated the panel about the proposed changes to the Other Standardized Assessment Option Proposal Form based on feedback at the September 28, 2018 meeting. ODE reviewed updates to the form, including an introduction narrative box for requesting another standardized assessment option for AESRP. ODE explained why the other recommendation of including a 4 check box was not included in the revision process. The original intent of the form was to identify accessibility supports available via other assessment options: 1. Number and quantity of

accessibility supports available, 2. Language supports available (e.g., translations, glossaries, ability for students to respond in language other than English). 3. Culturally or linguistically relevant / responsive / appropriate assessment development.

Ralph Brown motioned to approve the updated revisions of the Other Standardized Assessment Option Form. Doug Nelson seconded the motion. The majority were in favor with 15 voting to approve; 0 opposed; 0 abstain; 4 absent.

Motion passed.

**VI. 9:45 – 10:00 Essential Skills: Manual Updates and Modified Cut Score Guidance**

Tony Bertrand introduced the discussion on Modified Cut Score and Modified Work Sample Guidance. Dan Farley presented some of the current issues or confusion ODE is receiving in regards to the topic: How are teams determining a modified cut score (Oregon 8th grade only)? Are teams aligning modified work samples to HS equivalent content standards? Does Appendix A provide guidance or does it need to be updated?

One member expressed concerns around only recognizing Smarter Balanced Assessment score from Oregon only. At this time, ODE has not been able to confirm other states included in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium that release scores at the Claim score level for reading or writing. Students would need to use one of the other pathways as indicated in the Essential Skills and Local Performance Assessment Manual for meeting the Essential Skills requirements.

Melissa Glover from Salem-Keizer School District requested, in addition to guidance for modified Work Samples, increased guidance for modified instruction for educators at the classroom level. It was expressed without addressing the core issue of instruction for students with unique learning needs, educators might be creating unintentional barriers around accessing diplomas and meeting the Essential Skills requirement.

**VII. 10:00 – 10:05 Follow-up Questions, Meeting Dates, and Adjourn**

**a. Follow-up Questions**

There were no follow-up questions or comments from the AERSP panel.

**b. Meeting Dates 2018 -2019**

Tony Bertrand clarified remaining dates for the 2018 – 2019 AESRP schedule.

- Spring 2019 AESRP Meeting via webinar: May 17, 2019 (9:00 – 10:30 A.M.)

**c. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 A.M.