

State Board News March 2014

State's first assessment fully aligned to the Kansas College and Career Ready Standards

Assessment pilot window opened March 10, 2014 through May 2, 2014. Kansas students in grades 3-8 and one grade in high school will take the new assessment in math and English language arts. While the piloted assessment launch is being well received, some districts have reported issues with the platform delivering the assessment. The Center for Education Testing and Evaluation (CETE) developed what is being referred to as the transition assessment and the KITE test engine. Deputy Commissioner Brad Neuenswander reminded board members that the driving force behind the pilot of the new system a year in advance of the state's waiver requirement was to identify and correct software performance issues.

Practice test samples are available on the KSDE website link listed below.

http://www.ksassessments.org/sites/ksassessments.org/files/documents/Instruction%20for%20KITE%20Practice%20Tests_021414.pdf

Kansas State Board of Education votes to extend school accreditations through 2014-2015

The board stressed that no determination will be made from the results of the 2014 assessments. Results of the 2014 assessments will be analyzed to measure validity of all assessment items and set cut scores. KSDE anticipates being able to provide schools with assessment results in August 2014.

In addition the SBOE moved to continue the use of Annual Measurable Objectives in place of AYP

AYP was the single percent proficient performance measurement established under the former No Child Left Behind Act. AMOs provide a multi-dimensional look at student achievement including academic performance, academic growth, proficiency gap reduction, and reduction in the percentage of students scoring below proficiency.

Criminal History Records Check regulation to the Department of Administration and Attorney General for Review-

The criminal history records check regulation, which was presented to the Board last month, and would require all teachers who have not previously submitted fingerprints to the Kansas State Board of Education to submit them upon application for license renewal. Ms. Wims-Campbell moved to approve submitting the proposed amendment to criminal history records check regulation 91-1-214 to the Department of Administration and the Office of the Attorney General, SBOE vote passed 9-1.

Process:

1. To the Office of Attorney General and Department of Administration
2. Public hearing-60 days
3. Kansas State Board of Education Public Hearing
4. Back to Kansas State Board of Education for final vote

If the above process brings no substantial changes, the anticipated timeframe is 90-120 days.

Recommendations of the Professional Practices Commission

The Professional Practices Commission convened hearings on Jan. 27, 2014 to address 17 applications for licensure. Two of the seventeen PPC recommendations were not approved by the SBOE. If the PPC's recommendation is not approved by the Board, the board must review all documents submitted and develop their own finding of fact. If a license is not approved, the applicant could appeal to the district court. All documents submitted will be provided to the Board for their review. The Kansas State Board of Education will take action at the next meeting.

The next Kansas State Board of Education meeting is scheduled for April 8-9, 2014, in Room 102 of the Landon State Office Building.