2015-2016 State Assessment Calendar

Points to Ponder

SSI

• After one year with only one administration (2014-2015), grade 5 & 8 math retests will once again be required.

• Scores for the May administration will be posted no later than May 31, 2016.

• Recommendation: Set up Grade Placement Committee meetings for all students taking the May administration. It will be easier to cancel the meetings for those who meet the standard at the second administration than to try to set up meetings that close to the end of school.

• Also recommended: Use the second administration numbers to plan for summer school.

STAAR

• Math and reading assessments for Grades 3-4, 6-7 have been moved into May from April.

• Report dates for Grades 3-4, 6-7 aren’t until mid-June. They are in May in 2015.

• The same is true for Grade 5&8 Science and Social Studies.

• Challenge! Grade 5&8 Science and Social Studies is administered the same week as the Grade 5&8 math and reading retest.

• Implication: Students who need to concentrate on passing math and reading most will now also be required to take two additional tests in the same week.

• Further implication: Less time for make-up testing in May, if needed

• Also, plan for distributing CSRs to students after they have left school for the summer.

STAAR Alternate 2

• Assessment window occurs in April instead of February

• Provides more time for assessment of this student population

• TEA may extend the window to three weeks but will wait on review of the 2015 STAAR Alternate 2 survey results before making that decision

• The deadline to answer the survey has passed
EOC

• December administration ends on December 11th, six days later than in 2014
• July administration ends five days later than the 2015 July administration
• Implication: Less time to plan for graduation for those graduating in months other than May
• Algebra II and English III optional assessments will be available in spring 2016.
• Brainstorm reasons to administer or not administer Algebra II and/or English III assessments.
• Make certain your school board is informed of the optional tests and that a decision to give or not to give the alternate assessments is fully vetted.
• If choosing to give the alternate tests, communicate early and often to your community to foster buy-in.

TELPAS

• The TELPAS window has been expanded one week.
• Great news! Since TELPAS falls during spring break, it gives a full three weeks for TELPAS administration.
• Challenge! The TELPAS window occurs simultaneous to the beginning of the STAAR Alternate 2 window. Both assessments are online assessments.
• If giving the EOC English II exam online, it too falls within the TELPAS window
• As do STAAR A and STAAR L for EOC and STAAR writing and first administration of SSI math and reading
• Recommendation: Work with technology staff early to make certain bandwidth and computers are available.

For more information contact:

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