

Assessment of Essential Skills Review Panel

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Panel Member Present via Webex: Charlie Bauer, Peggy Blair, John Bouchard, Ralph Brown, Lori Cullen Brown, Kathy Hall, Brenda Morton, Bob Rayborn, Tim Rupp, Tiffany Shireman, Chareane Wimbley-Gouveia, Michelle Zundel, Marilyn Williams

Facilitating WebEx: Derek Brown

Welcome and approval of October 5 meeting minutes:

Derek welcomed the group at 9:05 a.m. then reviewed the agenda. Chareane Wimbley-Gouveia moved to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2013 meeting the motion was seconded by Ralph Brown. Derek reviewed the meeting dates for 2013-14. Meetings will be held via webex on Friday, October 4, 2013, Friday, January 17, 2014 and Friday, April 18, 2014.

I. State-wide assessment system transition planning

Context of the 4/9/13 letter from Rob Saxton regarding the process to adopt a new assessment aligned to Common Core was given by Derek who then asked for discussion from the group. Derek also offered that the State Board of Education will meet in May and will be provided with an official recommendation.

Bob Rayborn asked about cost and offered that he may participate with a group that has been asked to compare assessment options and make a formal recommendation to the State Board of Education.

Several group members indicated that the difference between OAKS and Smarter Balanced is striking, and that computer-adaptive testing will be a very important feature to consider in the future based on Oregon's history and success with the format. There is concern that if Oregon shifts to Smarter Balanced the Essential Skills achievement standards will need to be set at an appropriate level until K-12 curriculum realignment and intervention programs are in place. Derek reminded the group that per OAR 581-22-0615, ODE will determine equivalent levels of rigor to current OAKS achievement standards (for Essential Skills graduation purposes), which may or may not be consistent with the achievement standards Smarter Balanced will set in the spring of 2014 (for federal accountability purposes).

II. Essential Skills assessment system transition planning

Cristen McLean presented review of the table of contents, template and one page of the Essential Skills Transition Planning document and requested high-level feedback from the committee.

Regarding item 3d in the table of contents members asked if this is distinctly different from what ESDs are doing in isolation around the State. It was determined that feedback for AESRP and ESDs would be helpful to review.

Cristen added that the unique value of this as compared to ESD is the functionality with feedback form AESRP and if something like this already exists, we would leverage it. Cristen reviewed the remainder of chapter 3 and all of section 4.

A review of page 6 Essential Skills Transition planning (3a) was given. Cristen asked for expectations of community colleges and the Oregon University System (OUS). Kathy Hall advised that the Oregon Math Education Council has discussed this and feel almost ubiquitously across the nation that high school calculus has become a calculator class, but that the problem-solving component had been lost. For students majoring in any type of math, AP calculus in high school will not transfer to a college math credit.

Chareane added that community colleges are also reviewing and discussing differentiated placement. Math problem solving is receiving considerable review.

Kathy Hall added that calculus appears to have become a hurdle. OUS students coming into the university system cannot conceptually take words and turn them into a statistics problem. Studies show that most students who drop out of graduate school are because they cannot pass statistics.

A question regarding item 3a, are we aiming at problem-solving that is consistent with a 236 on OAKS, which may not be the student moving through calculus? Cristen's response is the ODEs focus would be around the nearly meets, meets level. Exceeds achievement level would be the next area as this provides connections if the State Board decides to raise the cut score in the future.

Cristen advised the committee that ODEs goal is to have assistance available in August for schools and Derek asked what are the specific pieces of professional development that the districts need.

Links to ODEs website for math work samples were made available to the committee in the chat window and are listed below.

Math Work Sample Training Materials:

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=3632>

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=3638>

Developing Math Work Samples for High School and Middle School Teachers

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=3639>

III. OAKS Writing assessment – data preview

Derek said ODE expects to have something written up by the end of next week and will send it out. The plan is provide a status check to the state board around reading and writing in May. As the documents are created, they will be forwarded.

IV. Essential Skills report structure

ODE has produced spreadsheets that look more like the graduation progress reports. Derek asked if the Excel spreadsheet format is useful to the committee or would another format be more useful?

Comments from the committee included the question, are Essential Skills required for an extended diploma? Derek advised there are no Essential Skills requirements for an extended diploma; ODE would give an outcome count.

It was asked that the race Asian/Pacific Islander be separated into two separate races Asian and Pacific Islander in order to align with the graduation/drop out report.

V. Follow up: ELPA concurrent validity study, MAP alignment

Data will be collected from districts until the end of April regarding the feasibility of the Woodcock-Munoz and IPT in terms of aligning them to a 3 on the ELPA. The alignment data will be reviewed by ODE staff and brought to AESRP for review next fall.

VI. Recruitment plan and status

AESRP committee recruitment has been added in the AA update and ODE is looking for ways to expand recruitment to the committee. ODE would like a broad reach for strong representation with the biggest pool to draw from. The selection process will be completed by May 17, 2013.

VII. Final thoughts, questions and wrap-up

Derek recognized and gave special thanks to Bob Rayborn, Brenda Morton, Peggy Blair, Michelle Zundel and Lori Cullen Brown who have served on the AESRP board for 5 years.

Derek advised the committee to look for future correspondence from ODE he then asked for final questions.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 10:27 a.m.