

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE OSPI ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

In January 2009, Superintendent Dorn announced substantial changes to the state's assessment system. Major components of the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) will be redesigned into a new Washington Comprehensive Assessment Program (WCAP). The WCAP will comprise two separate assessment systems: the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP), covering the state's assessment of students in elementary and middle school, and the High School Proficiency Exams (HSPE), which incorporate assessments designed to ensure that high school students have met the state's standards in core content areas.

Since the announcement of the new assessment program, OSPI staff has made numerous presentations to superintendents, district assessment coordinators, principals and other education audiences. These have been delivered through face-to-face presentations as well as through internet Webinars.

The WCAP has not been formally presented to the State Board of Education with the opportunity for questions and answers. OSPI staff will describe the changes to the state's assessments and respond to questions from the Board.



OSPI CHANGES AND PRIORITIES

February 2009

OSPI agency priorities

Superintendent Dorn's five budget and policy priorities

- ▶ Fund the Basic Education Funding Task Force recommendations
- ▶ Replace the Washington Assessment of Student Learning
- ▶ Dramatically reduce the dropout rate and improve achievement for all students
- ▶ Expand career and technical educational opportunities
- ▶ Expand early learning opportunities

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The future of assessment

The new “Washington Comprehensive Assessment Program”: six goals

1. Shorten the tests
2. Reduce the amount of time students spend on written responses
3. Return scores more quickly
4. Increase the use of technology
5. Provide more diagnostic information to teachers/parents
6. Minimize costs



Components of the new “Washington Comprehensive Assessment Program”

Measurements of Student Progress

Grades 3-8

Focus on monitoring student academic progress through the years

High School Proficiency Exams (HSPE)

High school

Focus on assuring students have knowledge and skills necessary for post-secondary choices



Measurements of Student Progress and High School Proficiency Exams: **READING**

Spring 2009

Administer WASL as planned

Spring 2010

Begin online testing in 3-8

2010-2011

Expand online testing; add HS

2011-2012

Statewide online testing

Online Fall tests in 3-8 →

Shortened passages; add completion items →

Fewer constructed response items →

Single-session testing; late Spring window →



Measurements of Student Progress and High School Proficiency Exams: **MATH**

Spring 2009

Administer WASL as planned

Spring 2010

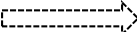
Begin online testing in 3-8

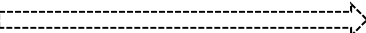
2010-2011

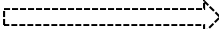
Expand online testing; add HS E-of-C

2011-2012

Statewide online testing

Online Fall tests in 3-8 

Add completion items 

Fewer constructed response items 

Single-session testing; late Spring window 

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Measurements of Student Progress and High School Proficiency Exams: **WRITING**

Spring 2009

Explore computerized scoring

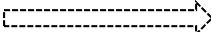
Spring 2010

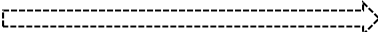
Possible computerized scoring

2010-2011

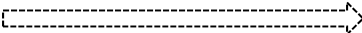
Online practice writing tests in 3-8, HS

2011-2012



Late Spring window 

Administer WASL as planned

Possible shortened test 

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Measurements of Student Progress and High School Proficiency Exams: **SCIENCE**

Spring 2009

Administer WASL as planned

Spring 2010

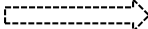
Begin online testing in 5 & 8

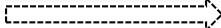
2010-2011

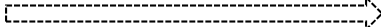
Expand online testing; add HS

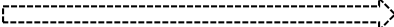
2011-2012

Statewide online testing

Add completion items 

Fewer constructed response items 

Single-session testing 

Late Spring window 

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New math and science standards

- ▶ **New mathematics standards**
 - ▶ Grades 3-8 assessed beginning in 2010
 - ▶ High school assessed beginning in 2011 (End-of-course)
- ▶ **New science standards**
 - ▶ Grades 5 and 8 assessed beginning in 2011
 - ▶ High school assessed beginning in 2012
- ▶ **Reduced open-ended items in reading, math, science**
 - ▶ Open-ended points reduced from 40-50% of test to more than 25%

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End-of-course exams for high school math

- ▶ Four end-of-course exams legislatively required to be implemented in 2011: Algebra I, Geometry, Integrated I and Integrated 2
- ▶ Required for all students taking such a course in 2011
- ▶ Final year for current WASL will be 2010
- ▶ A “core math” test measuring 1st and 2nd year high school math will be developed as a graduation alternative starting in 2011

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New high school mathematics “performance expectations” (PEs) arranged by course

	Int 1	Int 2	Int 3	Duplicates	Total
Alg I	32	7	2	(-1)	40
Geom	9	23	14	(-3)	43
Alg II	1	13	26	(-4)	36
Total	42	43	42	(-8)	119

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Online testing

- ▶ Online (computer delivered) tests will be optional in 2010; evaluation of infrastructure
- ▶ Online testing expanded in 2010-2011, with optional fall online testing in grades 3-8
- ▶ Goal: Statewide online testing in 2011-2012
- ▶ Paper-and-pencil remains an accommodation and an option
- ▶ Capturing responses via computer supports constructed responses; will explore computerized scoring
- ▶ Current contractors have proven track record
- ▶ Growth scores available from fall-to-spring
- ▶ OSPI is exploring fiscal impacts of computerized scoring

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Expanded support for classrooms

- ▶ Will move aggressively to provide classroom teachers with support throughout the year
- ▶ Will be online tools (screening and progress monitoring)
- ▶ Will be two testing opportunities
- ▶ Spring accountability test moved to later in the year

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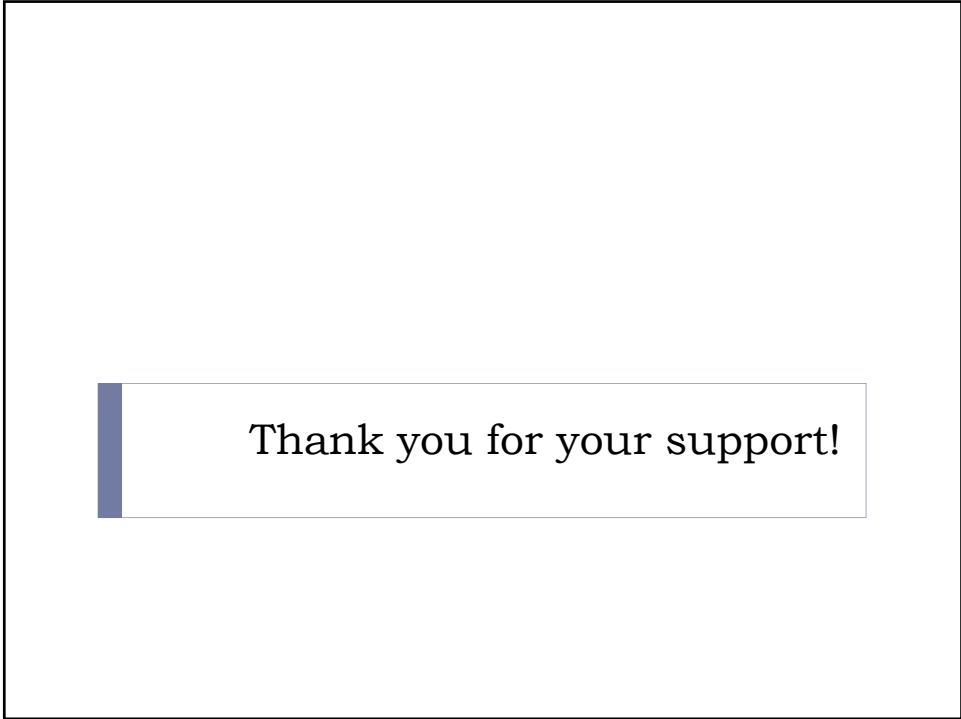


Other testing issues

- ▶ **Translations**
 - ▶ Budget required cutback to translate Math/Science into 6 languages to 2 languages (Spanish/Russian)
 - ▶ Will work to re-instate full six-language plan
- ▶ **Modified tests for students with disabilities**
 - ▶ Formed a group to study WAAS-Portfolio
- ▶ **ELL Testing**
 - ▶ Will work toward better alignment between Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) and English language proficiency test (WLPT-II)

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Thank you for your support!