

The Washington State Board of Education

Governance | Accountability | Achievement | Oversight | Career & College Readiness

Title:	Recommendations for a Career and College Ready Assessment System	
As Related To:	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal One: Effective and accountable P-13 governance. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal Two: Comprehensive statewide K–12 accountability. <input type="checkbox"/> Goal Three: Closing achievement gap.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal Four: Strategic oversight of the K–12 system. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal Five: Career and college readiness for all students. <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Relevant To Board Roles:	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy Leadership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> System Oversight <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy	<input type="checkbox"/> Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Convening and Facilitating
Policy Considerations/ Key Questions:	<p>How will adoption of the Common Core State Assessment and the projected adoption of the Next Generation science standards affect the state assessment system? More specific questions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the role of an 11th grade CCSS assessment? • What will be the role of SBE in setting cut scores for CCSS assessments? • What are the implications of high school students being taught and assessed under different standards during their high school career? • How will the new standards work with the state’s Achievement Index? • What high school assessments should be required for graduation? <p>SBE is authorized by RCW 28A.230.090 to set high school graduation requirements including the certificate of academic achievement and certificate of individual achievement (RCW 28A.230.090 (1)(b)). The Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to consult with the SBE on the assessment system (RCW 28A.655.070(3)(a)).</p>	
Possible Board Action:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt <input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Materials Included in Packet:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Memo <input type="checkbox"/> Graphs / Graphics <input type="checkbox"/> Third-Party Materials <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint	
Synopsis:	<p>The SBE will review and discuss the changes to academic standards and to the state assessment system.</p> <p>The current system of tests required for graduation is prescribed by statute, so any changes in the type and timing of exit exams will require new legislation. The CCSS will be fully implemented in 2014–2015. Next Generation Science standards, if adopted, will be implemented in 2016–17 at the earliest. Both the Common Core and Next Generation Science standards will result in each graduating high school class experiencing different standards and/or assessments from the preceding and succeeding class for at least the next eight years.</p> <p>In view of these changes, the SBE may consider adopting a position statement recommending policies which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure fairness to students. • Support educators during the transition to new standards and new assessments. • Promote college and career ready standards. • Encourage meaningful high school assessments. 	

Recommendations for a Career and College Ready Assessment System

Policy Consideration

Washington State has adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts and mathematics which will be fully implemented in 2014–2015. In addition, Next Generation Science Standards may be adopted by Washington State and implemented as early as 2016–2017. These new standards will profoundly impact the state’s K–12 assessment system.

The Washington State Board of Education (SBE) will review the changes projected in the state assessment system. SBE may consider adopting a policy position designed to help:

- Ensure fairness to students.
- Support educators during the transition to new standards and new assessments.
- Further college and career readiness standards.
- Encourage meaningful high school assessments.

Policy considerations and key questions include:

- What is the role of an 11th grade CCSS assessment?
- How will CCSS articulate with higher education?
- What is the role of the SBE setting cut scores for CCSS assessments?
- How will End of Course assessment work with CCSS?
- Some high school students will be taught and take assessments under a mix of standards—what are the implications?
- How will the new standards work with the state’s Achievement Index?
- Should high school exit exams change?

Summary

The assessment system is used to evaluate institutions, measure individual student progress, and describe minimum standards met by high school students for graduation. Students in the class of 2015 (who entered 9th grade in the 2011–12 school year and beyond) will need to pass five high school exit exams:

- Two math End of Course exams.
- One High School Proficiency Exam in reading.
- One High School Proficiency Exam in writing.
- One biology End of Course exam.

Students who pass all high school exit exams earn a CAA Certificate of Academic Achievement, a high school graduation requirement.

The current high school assessment system is required by law, (see Table 1) and any changes to the assessment system will require new legislation.

Table 1 – Summary of Relevant High School Assessment Law

A certificate of academic achievement shall be obtained by most students by about the age of 16.	28A.655.061(2)
Students who meet standard on statewide assessments in reading, writing, math, and science (for the class of 2015 and beyond) will earn a Certificate of an Academic Achievement.	28A.655.061 (3) 28A.655.061 (4)
Students will have the opportunity to retake an assessment up to four times in a content area where they did not meet standard.	28A.655.061 (7)
SAT, ACT, and AP tests may be used as alternative assessments.	28A.655.061 (10) (b)
Beginning in 2011–2012, the statewide high school assessment for science is an end-of-course assessment in biology.	28A.655.068
The statewide assessments in mathematics will be end-of-course assessments in the first and second year of high school mathematics; the graduating class of 2013 and 2014 will need to pass one math EOC, and the graduating class of 2015 and beyond will need to pass two math EOCs.	28A.655.066
Alternative assessment methods will include grade comparisons and collections of work samples.	28A.655.065 (4) 28A.655.065 (5)

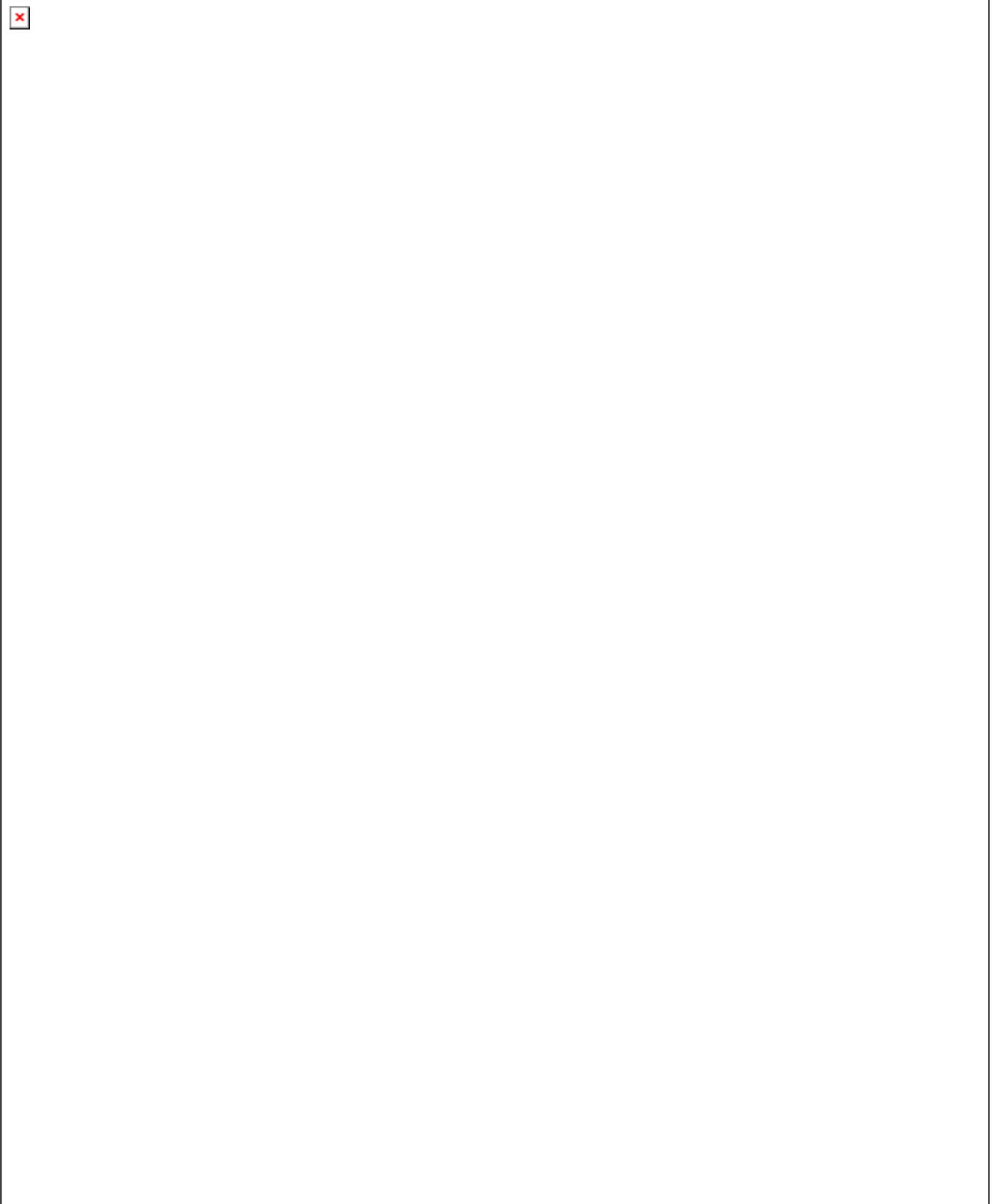
In July 2011, Superintendent Randy Dorn adopted the Common Core State Standards for the State of Washington. These new standards in English Language Arts and mathematics will be fully implemented in 2014–2015, when new assessments based on the Common Core State Standards will be available. Washington State is a member of the Smarter Balanced Consortium (SBAC) which is developing an assessment system based on the Common Core Standards. In addition, Washington State is a member of a partnership of states developing new science standards, the Next Generation Science Standards. These standards could be implemented as early as the 2016–17 school year with new assessments available for the 2017–18 school year.

These new academic standards (Common Core and Next Generation Science) will be the basis for statewide high school assessments. Table 2 shows the typical assessments taken by high school students in grades 9 through 11 starting with the class of 2013 and projecting through the class of 2020. This table depicts how changeable the high school assessment system will be over the next decade. The ‘observations’ column of the table emphasizes how each graduating class, for at least the next 8 years, is likely to experience different academic standards and/or different assessments from the class that precedes it and from the class that follows it.

In view of the many changes the system will undergo, the SBE may consider developing and promoting policies such as:

- Students should not have to pass assessments for graduation that are based on different standards than they have been taught..
- Any changes to graduation requirements should be made for incoming ninth grade classes, not for students who are partly through their high school year.

Table 2 High School Assessments (this table assumes SBAC assessments will be implemented)



Background

SBE is authorized by RCW 28A.230.090 to set high school graduation requirements, including the Certificate of Academic Achievement and Certificate of Individual Achievement (RCW 28A.230.090 (1)(b)).

The Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to consult with the SBE on the assessment system (RCW 28A.655.070(3)(a)):

“In consultation with the state board of education, the superintendent of public instruction shall maintain and continue to develop and revise a statewide academic assessment system in the content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science for use in the elementary, middle, and high school years designed to determine if each student has mastered the essential academic learning requirements identified in subsection (1) of this section. School districts shall administer the assessments under guidelines adopted by the superintendent of public instruction. The academic assessment system may include a variety of assessment methods, including criterion-referenced and performance-based measures.”

It is also the responsibility of the SBE to identify the scores that meet standard on statewide student assessments. High school students must score at or above the level identified by SBE to obtain a certificate of academic achievement (28A.305.130 (4)(b)).

Action

The SBE will:

- Discuss the state assessment system.
- Identify further information that may assist in decision-making.
- Consider adopting a position statement including recommendations for a Career and College Ready Assessment System.

Developing an Assessment System that Supports College and Career Readiness for All Students

PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD,
NOVEMBER 9, 2012

Ms. Linda Drake, Senior Policy Analyst



High school assessment system



New Tests

- 9 and 10th Grade exams created to new standards
- 11th grade Smarter Balanced Assessment

For the next 8 to 10 years, each high school class will have different high school assessments and/or different standards than the previous class

Washington's Content Standards

Washington's Reading (2005), Writing (2005), and Math (2008) Standards



Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics

- Adopted July, 2011
- Full implementation 2014-2015

Washington's Science Standards (2009)



Next Generation Science Standards

- Consider adoption in Spring 2014
- Earliest full implementation 2016-2017 (likely 2017-2018)

The assessment system and the role of the State Board of Education (SBE)

Graduation Requirements RCW 28A.230.090

- SBE is authorized to set high school graduation requirements, including the Certificate of Academic Achievement

Setting Cut Scores RCW 28A.305.130 (4)(b)

- SBE is responsible for identifying scores students must achieve to meet standards on statewide assessments to obtain a Certificate of Academic Achievement

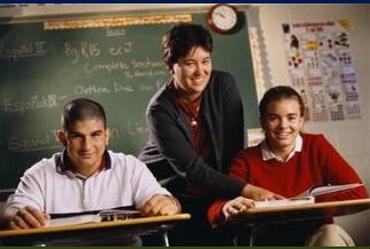
Providing Consultation RCW 28A.655.070(3)(a)

- SPI, in consultation with SBE, shall maintain, continue to develop and revise a statewide academic assessment system



Policies decisions that led to the current assessment system

- Assessments that are graduation requirements should be given in the 10th grade
- Content areas for testing should be reading, writing, math, and science
- For math and science, end of course exams are preferred over comprehensive exams
- Alternative assessments are important options and include collections of evidence, grade comparisons, and SAT/ACT



Assessments for high school graduation are required by law

RCW 28A.655.061

- Most students should meet requirements by the age of 16 [10th grade]
- Content areas are reading, writing, mathematics and science
- Alternative assessments include ACT and SAT

RCW 28A.655.066

- Mathematics assessments are End of Course exams for the 1st and 2nd year of high school mathematics
 - algebra 1, integrated math 1
 - geometry, integrated math 2

RCW 28A.655.068

- Starting in 2011-12 school year, the science assessment is an End of Course exam in biology

RCW 28A.655.065

- Alternative assessments include:
 - Grade Comparison
 - Collections of Evidence



Current assessment system—based on Washington State Standards

2008 Washington Math Standards, 2005 Washington Reading/Writing Standards and 2009 Washington Science Standard 1.2

Grades 3-8

Measurement of Student Progress (MSP)

- reading
- math
- writing (grades 4, 7)
- science (grades 5, 8)

High School

High School Proficiency Exams (HSPE)

- reading
 - writing
- End of Course (EOC) Exams
- algebra 1
 - geometry (Class of 2015 and beyond)
 - Biology (Class of 2015 and beyond)

Exit Exams

All high school assessments are also Exit Exams

- Alternative options include
 - ACT/SAT/AP test
 - Grade comparison
 - Collection of Evidence



Common Core State Standard Assessments

Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC)

- More rigorous tests measuring student progress toward “**college and career readiness**”
- Adaptive tests, designed to be delivered by computer
- Summative, end-of-year assessments
- The high school assessment will be an 11th grade assessment
- Software to access SBAC test items for the creation of End of Course exams

2014-2015 statewide implementation and assessment of Common Core State Standards

Common Core State Standards for English language arts and mathematics; 2009 Washington State Science Standards 1.2

Grades 3-8

Smarter Balanced Assessments

- English language arts
 - mathematics
- Washington science MSP

High School

10th Grade Exit Exams based on CCSS

Washington biology EOC

11th grade Smarter Balanced Assessment

- English language arts
- mathematics

Exit Exams*

10th Grade Exit Exams based on CCSS

- reading
 - writing
- EOCs based on CCSS

- math 1
 - math 2
- Washington biology EOC
- Assessment options

* Without new legislation

Projected assessments by class

Class of :	9 th grade year	10 th grade year	11 th grade year	exit exams	observations	standards
2013 (current Seniors)	2009-10	math 1 EOC or math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE	2011-12	one math EOC or math HSPE	<i>"First graduating class that must pass a math EOC to graduate."</i>	WA standards
				writing HSPE		
				reading HSPE		
2014 (current Juniors)	2010-11 math 1 EOC	2011-12 math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE, biology EOC	2012-13 Some students will take SBAC pilots	same as above	<i>"First graduating class to pilot the SBAC 11th Grade Test."</i>	WA standards
2015 (current Sophomores)	2011-12 same as above	2012-13 same as above	2013-2014 same as above	two math EOCs	<i>"First class that must pass 2 math EOCs, and Biology EOC to graduate."</i>	WA standards
				reading HSPE		
				writing HSPE		
				biology EOC		
2016 (current Freshmen)	2012-13 same as above	2013-14 same as above	2014-15 SBAC	same as above	<i>"First class to take 11th grade SBAC Test."</i>	WA standards
2017 (current 8th graders)	2013-14 same as above	2014-15 math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE all based on CCSS standards, biology EOC	2015-16 SBAC	two math EOCs	<i>"First class that must pass Common Core Tests to graduate."</i>	CCSS WA
				reading HSPE		
				writing HSPE		
				biology EOC		
2018 (current 7th graders)	2014-15 math 1 EOC based on CCSS standards	2015-16 same as above	2016-17 SBAC Earliest implementation of Next Generation Science Standards	New requirements with SBAC? (would require new legislation in 2014)	<i>"First opportunity to switch grad requirement tests to SBAC tests."</i>	CCSS WA
				biology EOC		
2019 (current 6th graders)	2015-16 same as above	2016-17 Earliest implementation of Next Generation Science Standards	2017-18 SBAC delivery by computer only Earliest Next Generation Science assessment	SBAC? Science assessment?	<i>"Earliest possible implementation of Next Gen Science Standards."</i>	CCSS and Next Generation
2020 (current 5th graders)	2016-17 Earliest implementation of Next Generation Science Standards	2017-18 Earliest Next Generation Science assessment	2018-19 SBAC Next Generation Science Assessment	New requirements based on Next Generation? (2016 for new legislation if required)	<i>"Earliest possible implementation of Next Gen Science Standards assessment."</i>	CCSS and Next Generation

Class of 2013, current seniors

Class of :	9 th grade year	10 th grade year	11 th grade year	exit exams	observations	standards
2013 (current Seniors)	2009-10	math 1 EOC or math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE	2011-12	one math EOC or math HSPE	<i>"First graduating class that must pass a math EOC to graduate."</i>	WA standards
				writing HSPE		
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2014 (current Juniors)	2010-11 math 1 EOC	2011-12 math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE, biology EOC	2012-13 Some students will take SBAC pilots	same as above	<i>"First graduating class to pilot the SBAC 11th Grade Test."</i>	WA standards
2015 (current Sophomores)	2011-12 same as above	2012-13 same as above	2013-14 same as above	reading HSPE	<i>"First class that must pass 2 math EOCs, and Biology EOC to graduate."</i>	WA standards
				writing HSPE		
				biology EOC		
2016 (current Freshmen)	2012-13 same as above	2013-14 same as above	2014-15 SBAC	same as above	<i>"First class to take 11th grade SBAC Test."</i>	WA standards
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One math EOC, generally taken in 10th grade

Class of :	9 th grade year	10 th grade year	11 th grade year	exit exams	observations	standards
2013 (current Seniors)	2009-10	2010-11 math 1 EOC or math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE	2011-12	one math EOC or math HSPE writing HSPE reading HSPE	"First graduating class that must pass a math EOC to graduate."	WA standards
2014 (current Juniors)	2010-11 math 1 EOC	2011-12 math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE, biology EOC	2012-13 Some students will take SBAC pilots	same as above	"First graduating class to pilot the SBAC 11th Grade Test."	WA standards
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2016 (current Freshmen)	2012-13 same as above	2013-14 same as above	2014-15 SBAC	same as above	"First class to take 11th grade SBAC Test."	WA standards
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2018 (current 7th graders)	2014-15 math 1 EOC, reading CCSS standards	2015-16 math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE all based on CCSS standards, biology EOC	2016-17 SBAC Next Generation Science Standards	math 1 EOC, reading CCSS standards writing HSPE biology EOC	"First opportunity to switch grad requirement tests to SBAC tests."	CCSS WA
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2020 (current 5th graders)	2016-17 Earliest implementation of Next Generation Science Standards	2017-18 Earliest Next Generation Science assessment	2018-19 SBAC Next Generation Science Assessment	New requirements based on Next Generation? (2016 for new legislation if required)	"Earliest possible implementation of Next Gen Science Standards assessment."	CCSS and Next Generation

Class of 2016,
current Freshmen

First class to take the 11th grade SBAC,
10th grade exit exams for graduation

Class of :	9 th grade year	10 th grade year	11 th grade year	exit exams	observations	standard:
2013 (current Seniors)	2009-10	math 1 EOC or math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE	2011-12	one math EOC or math HSPE	"First graduating class that must pass a math EOC to graduate."	WA standards
			writing HSPE			
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2015 (current Sophomores)	2011-12	same as above	2013-2014 same as above	two math EOCs	"First class that must pass 2 math EOCs, and Biology EOC to graduate."	WA standards
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	biology EOC					
2016 (current Freshmen)	2012-13 same as above	2013-14 same as above	2014-15 SBAC	same as above	"First class to take 11th grade SBAC Test."	WA standards
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	same as above					
2020 (current 5th graders)	2016-17 Earliest implementation of Next Generation Science Standards	2017-18 Earliest Next Generation Science assessment	2018-19 SBAC Next Generation Science Assessment	New requirements based on Next Generation? (2016 for new legislation if required)	"Earliest possible implementation of Next Gen Science Standards assessment."	CCSS and Next Generation

Class of 2017,
current 8th graders

This class will also take
10th grade exit exams
for graduation
based on CCSS in
reading, writing and
math

Class of :	9 th grade year	10 th grade year	11 th grade year	exit exams	observations	standard:
2013 (current Seniors)	2009-10	2010-11 math 1 EOC or math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE	2011-12	one math EOC or math HSPE	"First graduating class that must pass a math EOC to graduate."	WA standards
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2020 (current 5th graders)	2016-17 Earliest implementation of Next Generation Science Standards	2017-18 Earliest Next Generation Science assessment	2018-19 SBAC Next Generation Science Assessment	New requirements based on Next Generation? (2016 for new legislation if required)	"Earliest possible implementation of Next Gen Science Standards assessment."	CCSS and Next Generation

This class might have new science standards by their 11th grade



The first class to have instruction in CCSS throughout their high school career

Class of 2018, current 7th graders

Class of :	9 th grade year	10 th grade year	11 th grade year	exit exams	observations	standards
2013 (current Seniors)	2009-10	2010-11 math 1 EOC or math 2 EOC, reading HSPE, writing HSPE	2011-12	one math EOC or math HSPE	<i>"First graduating class that must pass a math EOC to graduate."</i>	WA standards
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2020 (current 5th graders)	2017-18 Earliest implementation of Next Generation Science Standards	2017-18 Science assessment	2017-18 Next Generation Science Assessment	New requirements based on Next Generation? (2016 for new legislation if required)	<i>"Earliest possible implementation of Next Gen Science Standards assessment."</i>	CCSS and Next Generation

Each class for the next 8 years will have different high school assessments and/or standards than the previous class

Our current 5th graders might be the first class who will need to pass assessments based on both the CCSS and the Next Generation Science Standards to graduate



Projected assessments by class

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				reading HSPE		
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Should 11th grade SBAC exams be used as exit exams?

- Smarter Balanced tests measure college and career readiness
 - According to the SBCTC, 57% of recent high school graduates who enroll in community or technical college take at least one pre-college course in reading, writing or math (Research Report 11-3, Revised April 2012)
- For math, Smarter Balanced tests are cumulative, not end of course exams



Exit exam costs

- Approved alternatives to exit exams: Collections of Evidence (COE)
- OSPI estimates \$20M for COEs for the 2013-2015 biennium
- As the number of assessments required for graduation increase, numbers of COEs are likely to increase
 - Cost considerations: local scoring, local stipend, limiting student eligibility
- Adding 11th Grade Tests
 - 11th grade tests will add \$30/student/test

Questions and topics for discussion

- What does the SBE want to take a legislative position on?
- What will be the SBE's role?

- College and career versus graduation
- Which assessments for graduation?
- CCSS and higher education
- Collections of evidence
- Ensuring students are tested on the same standards they are taught
- Accountability index