

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

HEARING TYPE: ___X___ ACTION

DATE: November 1, 2007

SUBJECT: **CUT SCORES FOR SAT-READING, SAT-WRITING, AND
ACT-READING FOR CAA OPTIONS**

SERVICE UNIT: Joe Willhoft, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

PRESENTER: Joe Willhoft, Ph. D., Assistant Superintendent
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

 Lesley Klenk, Ph.D., CAA Options Administrator
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

BACKGROUND

The legislature has approved a number of alternatives to the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) that students can use to meet the state's assessment graduation requirements. These alternatives are collectively referred to as "CAA Options". The CAA Options include the Collection of Evidence, the WASL/GPA Cohort Option, a score of 3 or higher on selected Advanced Placement (AP) exams, and adequate scores on SAT, PSAT, and ACT mathematics exams. During the 2007 legislative session, the CAA Options were expanded to include scores on SAT and ACT reading and writing exams, with direction to the State Board of Education to set cut scores on those exams before December 1, 2007. OSPI has followed the same procedures for this analysis as was used for establishing the cut scores for SAT, PSAT, and ACT mathematics.

OSPI obtained score files from the College Board and matched those scores with students' WASL scores. This allows for an "equi-percentile" linking of WASL scores to SAT scores. "Concordance Tables" jointly published by the College Board and ACT were then used to establish the comparable score on ACT as that found on SAT through the linking. Because no concordance table currently exists for SAT Writing-to-ACT Writing, cut scores for ACT Writing cannot be established at this time.

At the time of the preparation of this memorandum, the analysis of the data was still underway. The analysis will identify the score on the SAT (or ACT) that represents an equal or higher level of rigor as required by the WASL.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

We recommend the State Board of Education adopt the cut scores for SAT-Reading, SAT-Writing, and ACT-Reading that result from the analysis.

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