

Testing email containing information sent to the DTCs.

From: Joyce DeFehr, Executive Director, State Testing  
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2012 10:30 AM  
To: District Test Coordinators  
Subject: URGENT: TESTING UPDATES from the SDE

District Test Coordinators,

I want to let you know that Test Preparation Manuals have been delayed. If you are attending a Test Preparation In-service the week of October 23-26, the Accountability and Assessments Office will have the manuals provided by the End-of-Instruction (EOI) contractor, CTB, to hand out at the meetings. Due to some administrative challenges, our Grades 3-8 testing contract will be going back out to bid. This will delay the Grades 3-8 Test Preparation Manual until a new testing contractor is named. This will NOT affect the required Test Preparation In-service trainings the State Department of Education (SDE) will be presenting between October 23- November 8, 2012. Our office will still be training district and building coordinators regarding responsibilities, security, test administration, procedures, and updates to testing for the 2012-13 school year.

I am attaching a revised Test Preparation schedule. All dates and times are correct. There is only one update to the training on October 25 at Northeast Technology Center in the Claremore/Pryor area. The original schedule shows this Technology Center on Highway 20 in Claremore when it should have read Highway 20 in Pryor.

Because of the delay on naming a new testing contractor for the Grades 3-8 program, it has been determined that the Grades 5 and 8 writing test will need to be delayed until Spring testing in April. More information on the exact days of the test will be forthcoming. Please see the attached memo regarding the new format for the Writing test for these two grades this year, along with new transitional Writing rubrics which have been developed to align to the Oklahoma C3 Standards and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for Writing and Language. Please forward this information to your Grades 5 and 8 principals and building test coordinators so they give it to teachers at these levels.

The server installation at the SDE is nearing completion for the Acuity Benchmark testing for Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, English II, and English III. Districts that notified our office of your intention or interest in participating in this program should be receiving information from the Acuity group in the near future. Webinar trainings will be offered for teachers or coordinators on the use of this system. One Benchmark test will be offered in late January or early February with two Benchmark tests available beginning in 2013-2014.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact the Accountability and Assessment Office at (405) 521-3341.