COOPERATIVE COUNCIL FOR OKLAHOMA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

2901 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405-524-1191 office
405-524-1196 fax
www.ccosa.org

August 18, 2015

Superintendent Hofmeister,

The Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration (CCOSA) enthusiastically supports your plan to make the ACT available to all Oklahoma juniors without cost to students and their families. A recent survey revealed that almost 400 members of the Oklahoma Association of School Administrators (OASA) support this proposal.

Oklahoma is a founding partner of ACT. We know that ACT is the assessment of choice for admissions and placement within the colleges and universities of Oklahoma's unified system of higher education. Based on more than 50 years of data and research, the ACT is designed to measure student readiness for one of the most important transitions in their life, the transition from the K-12 setting into college or the workforce.

More than any other assessment currently provided to Oklahoma high school students, the ACT is the single most important exam for purposes of college admission and scholarship opportunities. Sadly, for far too many students, access to this exam is limited due to the costs associated with ACT. Fortunately, your administration has made this test a priority and has made the laudable decision to remove obstacles to opportunity by making the ACT available to districts and their students.

The ACT is an important tool for Oklahoma educators and their students as we work collaboratively to realize the goals of Governor Fallin's Oklahoma Works Initiative. We agree with Governor Fallin that "as we look to the year 2020, the state's greatest challenge will be increasing the number of students with workforce credentials or associate degrees, as well as increasing the number of college graduates." Fortunately, by providing the ACT to all Oklahoma juniors the State Department of Education is equipping educators, students, and their families with real-time data about college and career readiness. No other assessment currently offered by the state to Oklahoma students provides a clearer measure of the attainment of college and career ready skills.

Thank you for exercising the type of bold leadership our students and their families deserve. We stand ready to provide any assistance necessary for the successful implementation of this important initiative.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Crawford
Co-Executive Director

Ryan Owens
Co-Executive Director