

ASSESSMENT

It is the policy of the Board that the Superintendent will develop and manage an assessment program that provides ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of the curriculum on improving student performance. The program must adhere to the processes for selection, administration, and interpretation of assessment instruments specified below. This program will include both local, state, and national assessment tools. The program must be aligned with the goals of the School District and be designed to assess each student's progress toward meeting the defined curriculum objectives.

Assessment Results

Assessment results will be analyzed and used with other data for the following purposes:

- To identify individual student strengths and weaknesses in content, concepts, and skills;
- To diagnose strengths and weaknesses of groups;
- To individualize instruction;
- To report progress to parents;
- To select curriculum materials;
- To set the pace of instruction;
- To select methods of instruction;
- To counsel students;
- To help determine revisions needed in the curriculum;
- To help determine professional development priorities at the school and district level.

Selection

The selection process will include the professional staff in its efforts to investigate new assessment tools and evaluate existing ones. The district assessment program may include data from multiple sources, including but not limited to: formative and summative course-embedded assessment (including performance assessments), state assessments, district-wide and school-based commercial assessments, and student results from voluntary assessments, such as the PSAT, SAT, and Advanced Placement exams.

ASSESSMENT

(continued)

Administration

The district-level assessment program will include a schedule for administration to students, distributed to staff and the board before the start of each school year.

Each building principal will provide assurance that test procedures are followed at the school level including the distribution and collection of test materials, test security, use of test results and testing dates as well as other pertinent requirements.

Students with disabilities must be provided the opportunity to participate in all student assessments. Any modifications in administration should be made and documented during the Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan review.

Interpretation

The Superintendent or designee will ensure that data from the district-level student assessment program is compiled, analyzed, summarized, and reported to the Board and be available to the public at least annually. The Superintendent or designee is responsible for the scores of individual students and they shall be made available only to appropriate personnel within the school in which the student is enrolled and to parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of each student as provided by law. Interpretation of test results shall be made available to parents and students.

The Board will provide funding for the student assessment program, including professional development for teachers in the use of tools to understand assessment results, to adjust instruction to meet personalized needs of students, and to monitor progress.

The Superintendent will provide an ongoing evaluation of the assessment program, and will provide regular reports to the Board showing the effectiveness of the curriculum on improving student performance.

Legal References:

RSA 193-C, Statewide Education Improvement and Assessment Program
NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.24, Assessment

Board Approved: 2/11/2008 (Replaces POPPS 2540)

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