

APPR Changes

Homer Central School District APPR Committee

May 2014

Tests Are Limited

- Administering traditional standardized tests to Kindergarten through 2nd grade is prohibited.
 - Traditional standardized assessments are a “systematic method of gathering information from objectively scored items that allow the test taker to select one or more of the given options or choices as their response.” NYSED is focusing on assessments that require the student to directly use a “bubble” answer sheet.

Limited Use of Scores

- Scores may not be used on student's official transcript or in permanent records.
 - This is in effect immediately
 - Repealed December 2018

Student Promotion Limits

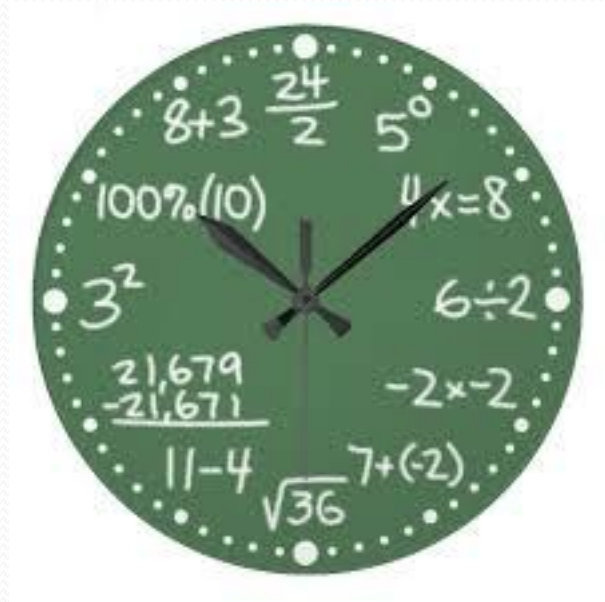
- Districts are prohibited from making promotion or placement decisions solely or primarily on a student's score on the 3-8 assessment.
- Scores can be part of multiple measures.

Students with Disabilities

- New regulations will be issued by the Commissioner of Education
 - Students who are not NYSAA eligible can be tested on an instructional level that may be more meaningful and appropriate.
 - English language learners will not be tested on ELA for two years. Will take a state assessment that measures their language development.

Time Limits

- Time devoted to state-administered assessments cannot exceed 1% of minimum annual instructional hours.
- Time devoted to test preparation under standardized conditions cannot exceed 2% of the minimum required annual instructional hours for each grade.



Transparency Report

- By July 1, 2014 Commissioner will create a Transparency Report for each district.
- Audience: Parents and Community.
- User-friendly language that will list and summarize all standardized tests administered in the district by grade and subject.
- Will note whether the test is required by federal law, state law, or given at local discretion.

Expedited Review

- Changes in APPR plans that relate to the elimination assessments will be reviewed by SED in 10 business days.
- Time spent on field tests will be reduced for students who take ELA and Math assessments.
- Commissioner will use federal funds to adjust field testing as no state funds are provided for this purpose.

Sample Questions Expanded

- “Significantly” more sample questions for grades 3-8 will be released.
- Teachers will “promptly receive information on the assessment results of their students” in a format that encourages instructional feedback and improvements.

SED to Provide More Tools

- More support and outreach will be available to parents and families.
- This will be achieved through schools, non-profit organizations, libraries and other partners.

CC Training Programs

- For principals and teachers
- Will collaborate with SUNY, CUNY and independent colleges to provide PD
- Will identify best practices and exemplars
- Will ask teachers and principals for feedback on the Common Core curriculum models

Data Collection

- Schools are allowed to opt out of providing personally identifiable information to a “shared learning infrastructure service provider” (SLISP) or dashboard provider.

Student Data Protection

- Protects student data and the release of unauthorized personally identifiable information.
- Requires the commissioner to appoint a Chief Privacy Office (CPO):
 - promoting the implementation of sound information practices for privacy and security of student, teacher and principal data
 - assisting districts and BOCES on establishing standards for protecting private data
 - promoting and sharing best practices associated with privacy and the security of student, teacher and principal data
 - creating a "Parents Bill of Rights" to be posted on each district's website to inform and advise parents of their rights to privacy and data security.

Teacher Improvement Process

Goal: Improve instruction by working with the teacher through a formalized process.

- Step 1: Teacher is placed on TIP based on accumulated evidence, lack of effectiveness, or developing or ineffective rating.
- Step 2: Conference and Goal Setting outline specific objectives for improvement.
 - Use SMART goals, strategies, timelines, specific criteria for evaluating improvement
- Step 3: Feedback and Review

Agreed Upon Revisions for Homer's APPR Plan

- K-2 ELA & Math – Create assessments for local portion
- 3rd grade ELA and Math – Use STAR for local portion (we already use STAR for grades 4-8)
- 6-7 Science – Create assessments for growth
- 6-8 Social Studies – Create assessments for growth
- Foreign Language, Technology, Business – need to further clarify needs (survey results were not clear)



What questions do you have
about the changes?