



Corvallis

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Prepared for: Corvallis School Board
Prepared by: Ryan Noss, Superintendent
Meeting Date: May 6, 2021

2020-21 State Summative Assessments Recommendation

[ACTION REQUESTED](#)

BACKGROUND

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) applied for a waiver with the United States Department of Education (USDOE) to not administer the Smarter Balanced assessments this spring. This would allow districts to focus on instruction for the remainder of this school year. The waiver was denied.

The chart below was recently released by ODE and outlines the assessments required to satisfy Division 22 standards.

- These modified assessments are shorter in length than the traditional Smarter Balanced Assessments, but still require a shift in focus from academic instruction to test administration.
- It is important to note that scores for these assessments are not available to districts for several weeks after they are administered.

Required Administration (except for students opted out of ELA and/or Math per ORS 329.479 or exempted from Science per OAR 581-021-009)	Grade Level	Additional Assessment Opportunity
English Language Arts (ELA)	3	Mathematics
Mathematics	4	ELA
Science	5	ELA & Mathematics
ELA	6	Mathematics
ELA & Mathematics	7	N/A
Mathematics & Science	8	ELA
ELA & Mathematics	11	Science

The Corvallis School District is committed to providing exceptional academic instruction and recommends using the limited remaining in-class instruction time to focus on teaching in place of using instructional time for state summative assessments this spring.

For many years, District staff have used both structured and unstructured assessments to monitor student progress. These diagnostic tools allow teachers to obtain real-time feedback on student strengths, areas of improvement, understanding of core concepts, skills-based performance, and more.

This information is critical for teachers to collect, as they modify instruction to meet the individual needs of their students and address any interruptions in learning that have arisen due to disruptions in student learning throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Current assessments include:

Grades K-5:

Classroom based assessments from adopted curricula and/or digital programs, examples include:

- Literacy: Being A Reader K-2 Beginning, Mid and End of Year Assessments, Collaborative Literacy Individualized Daily Reading (IDR) Conferences/Conferring, Benchmark and Adalante Learning End of Unity Assessments
- Math: Engage New York Module Assessments, Bridges Unit Assessments, Zearn Exit, Mid and End Mission Level Assessments

Grades 6-8:

- Formative and Summative class-based assessments in core subject areas

High School:

- Class-based assessments depending on subject
- SAT, ACT for some students
- Essential Skills requirement is waived for 2021 graduates and 2022 graduates

This spring our district will be administering the YouthTruth survey as an instructional planning tool for next fall. This student perception survey allows students to provide information related to engagement, academic rigor, relationships, belonging and peer collaboration, culture, college and career readiness, emotional/mental health, diversity, equity and inclusion, and project based learning.

Last week, we sought feedback from parents and guardians related to postponing state assessments until next year. A poll was emailed to all families and was available in English and Spanish. We received input from 1,322 parents and guardians¹. 68-75% supported postponing until the 2021-22 school year.

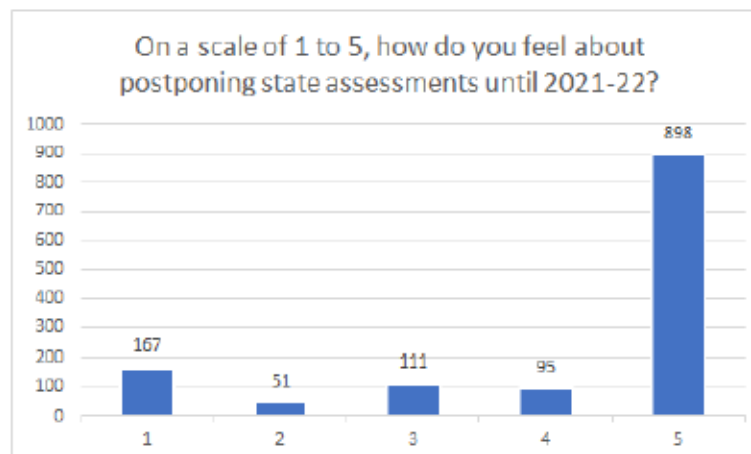


Figure 1

¹ Figure 1

Between the academic diagnostics already in use and the Youth Truth survey, the District would like to move forward with our focus on instruction and not administer state assessments this spring. This would put the district out of compliance with Division 22.

- Should the district become out of compliance with Division 22, it would then report to ODE as required that it was out of compliance and would create an action plan to meet the requirement.
- The action plan would be to administer the state-required SBA assessments during the 2021-22 school year when students are back to five days a week of in-person instruction.

ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize district staff to maximize instructional time by not administering state assessments for the 2020-21 school year.

MOTION REQUESTED

"I move to authorize district staff to maximize instructional time by not administering state assessments for the 2020-21 school year."