

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Recommended Final Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) for the EOC Tests of Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I

Type of Executive Summary:

- Action Action on First Reading Discussion Information

Policy Implications:

- Constitution _____
 General Statute # _____
 SBE Policy #HSP-C-010
 SBE Policy Amendment
 SBE Policy (New)
 APA # _____
 APA Amendment
 APA (New)
 Other _____

Presenter(s): Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division)

Description:

In accordance with the practice established after the national audit panel's review of the testing program several years ago, the recommended *final* academic achievement standards (cut scores) and Achievement Level Descriptors for the North Carolina EOC tests in the areas of Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I are being provided for adoption on first reading at the November 2007 meeting of the State Board of Education. The revised Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I end-of-course tests were implemented initially as operational tests effective with the fall 2006 administration. The interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for these tests were approved by the SBE for the 2006-07 school year only. The impact test data used to review the standards for the tests were generated from the 2006-07 school year (fall block, spring block, and year-long courses). The final standards are to be implemented effective with the 2007-08 school year. The final standards for Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I EOC tests resulted from a recommendation of practitioners who met October 15-16 2007, in sessions facilitated by the Pearson Educational Measurement to review the existing interim standards adopted by the SBE in Fall of 2006, and to use the Item-Mapping procedure to either validate those standards or make a recommendation to modify the standards. In addition, the achievement level descriptors will be revised for each of the tests to reflect the current expectations. The department originally used a combination of the Contrasting Groups and Reasoned Judgment methods to set the interim academic achievement standards.

The recommended final cut scores for the revised Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, English I EOC tests will be provided at the November 2007 meeting of the State Board of Education along with the impact data.

Resources:

Staff psychometricians, other staff from Test Development Section at NCDPI, the test development staff at NCSU-TOPS, Exceptional Children, ESL, Curriculum staff, and some representatives from other sections and divisions within the agency, a group of English and mathematics educators and practitioners, and facilitators from the Pearson Educational Measurement

Input Process:

Recommendation from mathematics and English educators as panelists during the item-mapping session, staff from the test development section, staff from test development at NCSU-TOPS, and staff from other sections and divisions in the department are expected to provide input into the recommendation.

Stakeholders:

Public school educators, the exceptional children's community, the ELL community, state and federal policy makers, and the general public

Timeline For Action:

The department recommends that the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) be adopted on first reading at the November 2007 meeting of the SBE.

Recommendations:

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-010 and that the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the revised Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and English I EOC tests be approved as provided.

Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred)
Specify: _____

Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided)
Specify: _____

Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents – white paper preferred)

Motion By: _____

Seconded By: _____

Vote: Yes _____ No _____

Abstain _____

Approved _____ Disapproved _____

Postponed _____ Revised _____

*Person responsible for SBE agenda materials and SBE policy updates: Lucy Medlin, 807-3771