



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TOPIC: State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Alternative: An Overview

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OF: Curriculum & Instruction Department

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: March 20, 2013

INFORMATIONAL REPORT:

STAAR-Alternative Student Assessment Overview- With a focus on student participation requirements and TEA changes to the administration of the assessment effective 2012-2013 school year.

STAAR-Alternative Assessment Overview



C&I - Special Education Department
March 5, 2013

Who is eligible for STAAR-Alt? Participation Requirements

- 1. The student must have a significant cognitive disability**
- 2. The student requires specialized supports to access the grade-level curriculum and environment**
- 3. The student requires intensive, individualized instruction in a variety of settings**
- 4. The student accesses and participates in the grade-level TEKS through prerequisite skills.**
- 5. The student primarily demonstrates knowledge and skills through performance tasks**

What is STAAR- Alternate?

- An alternate assessment to the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) for students with significant cognitive disabilities
- An assessment based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) curriculum that is linked to grade-level student expectations through *prerequisite skills*
- An observation of student performance on state-developed assessment tasks – not a traditional paper test

Timeline for STAAR-Alt Administration is September - April

Why STAAR Alternative?

Federally mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Federal Law says:
We must assess ***All*** Students
All means ***All***

There are No Exceptions!

Changes in STAAR-Alt Student Scores

**Increase in Rigor applicable to STAAR-Alt
In 2012-2013 It will be necessary to complete at least one
complexity level II or III task to reach proficiency**

TEA – 2/1/13

Level 1 Essence Statement 12 Points
Level 1 Essence Statement 12 Points
+ Level 1 Essence Statement 12 Points
Level 2 Essence Statement **14**Points

Total Points 50 for a Level II Satisfactory

2011-2012	2012-2013	
0 – 47	0 – 49	Level I: Developing
48 – 77	50 – 77	Level II: Satisfactory
78 – 84	78 – 84	Level III: Accomplished

****Only a total of three observations per tasks is allowed***