

SUSD Assessment Committee Recommendation for 2015-16

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Governing Board Meeting

May 12, 2015

Timeline

- March 24, 2015 Assessment Committee recommendation shared with SUSD Governing Board
- April 12, 2015 Additional information shared with SUSD Governing Board based on requests
- May 7, 2015 SUSD Governing Board work study regarding use of benchmarks
- May 12, 2012 Action requested by Administration to approve the SUSD Assessment Committee's recommendation

March 24, 2015 Recommendation to Board:

The Assessment Committee has taken on the task to look at what future assessment tools (for pre/posts, benchmarks, etc...) will look like in SUSD since the ATI/Galileo contract is expiring June 30, 2015. It has become abundantly clear that different levels have different needs. Based on the time spent researching, discussing, and reflecting on the different purposes and types of assessments, the committee is recommending to extend ATI for only one year as a sole source to satisfy State and Federal compliance requirements.

Variables Influencing Committee Recommendation:

- ❖ *More time for the state to finalize the current AzMerit test and school accountability*
- ❖ *Fiscal responsibility to avoid spending money on a program that may or may not support our needs and state regulations*
- ❖ *SUSD to remain in compliance with state and federal mandates (Move on When Reading, Teacher Classification, Student Growth, etc...)*
- ❖ *More time for research about assessment and options.*
- ❖ *More time to gather feedback, so we can be most thoughtful in making recommendations.*

Assessment Plan for 2015-16

pending approval of 1 year contract with ATI, our current vendor

Benchmark testing in ELA and Math
Pre and Post Testing for Teacher Classification

K-5, K-8 and 6-8 Direction 2015-16

No changes in implementation of ELA and math benchmarks

Pre and Post testing to meet the requirements of SB 1040 will continue be implemented for the 2015-16 school year.

Reinstate pre and post tests in:

- 3rd grade music
- 5th grade orchestra and strings
- 5th grade visual arts
- 5th grade band
- 5th grade physical education

** these were paused due to reduction in instructional time in specials in 2014-15*

High School Direction 2015-16

Create school improvement plans within the high schools to include the following goal area:

“Meet the needs of individual learners by using a variety of assessments to design and align curriculum and adjust instruction.”

An intended outcome is to include ELA and math district/teacher created common assessments in addition to potential outside assessments.

High School Direction 2015-16

Going forward:

- The use of ATI Galileo ELA and math Benchmarks to be a site decision at each high school for the 2015-16 school year.
- Pre and Post testing to meet the requirements of SB 1040 will continue be implemented for the 2015-16 school year.

In the end:

The processes and systems associated with identifying what we want students to know, how to monitor their progress, and how to design purposeful interventions is more important than any “test”.

Continued commitment to continuous improvement of benchmarks and post tests in SUSD

- Continue to invite teachers to review ELA and math benchmark questions (began in 2007-08)
- Continue to invite ELA and math teachers to review the post test questions (began in 2014-15)
- Continue to invite non-ELA and math teachers to review and revise questions for post tests (began in 2012-13)

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Discussion