

Policy Level: BOARD POLICY	Descriptor Code: II	Rescinds Code:
Descriptor Term: STUDENT TESTING AND ASSESSMENT	Effective Date: August 13, 2013	
<p>The Walton County School District shall establish, implement, and maintain a systemwide student assessment program that incorporates the standardized tests required by State Law, State Board of Education regulations, and Federal law. In addition, the Walton County School District shall participate in such other supplemental testing or assessments as the Superintendent or his or her designee deems appropriate. The School System shall adhere to all written regulations and procedures established by the State related to testing and test administration, including the distribution and collection of test materials, test security, use of test results, and official testing dates.</p> <p>The purposes of the standardized assessment program are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide information to assist teachers and administrators in providing individualized instruction for students; ● Measure the level of student achievement on the standards; ● Provide information to be used in evaluating the effectiveness of the instructional program; and ● Identify instructional strengths and weaknesses so that programs may be adjusted accordingly. <p>Only students actively enrolled in a public school in Walton County School District will be included in the systemwide student assessment program. Students shall be assessed in English only on all state-mandated tests.</p> <p>All state-mandated assessments shall be administered by Georgia-certified educators. All personnel involved directly or indirectly in the administration or processing of any or all state-mandated assessments shall be appropriately trained before each actual administration. Staff development shall be available annually to instruct teachers on the use of tests within the instructional program to improve student achievement.</p> <p>Allegations of failure to follow procedures required for the secure and appropriate administration of state-mandated assessments shall be reported to the Georgia Department of Education and Professional Standards Commission. Serious incidents also should be reported to the Board.</p> <p>Individual student assessment scores shall be confidential and shall be made available only to the student, the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), appropriate School System personnel, and any mandated state or federal entity. Student test scores should become part of the student's permanent record as soon as possible after testing so that test scores will be available when a student transfers to a new school.</p> <p>Summary reports for all state-mandated assessment administrations must be systematically filed at the school level in a timely manner. Reports must be available for review by school, district, state, and federal personnel upon request.</p> <p>Under the direction of the Superintendent, the School System's Testing Director shall develop procedures for test administration and test security consistent with State requirements.</p> <p>Policies and procedures applicable to student assessment shall be reviewed annually, as required by law.</p> <p>Results of all state or school-system mandated standardized tests shall be reported to the Board as soon as possible after receipt and placed on the next Board agenda for review and discussion. Whenever possible, trend data for multiple years will also be provided.</p>		