


MEMORANDUM

TO: County Test Coordinators

FROM: Steven L. Paine 
State Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: West Virginia Educational Standards Test 2 (WESTEST 2)

DATE: March, 2010

The West Virginia Department of Education will administer the West Virginia Educational Standards Test 2 (WESTEST 2) May 17-28, 2010. The WESTEST 2 is aligned to the West Virginia 21st Century Content Standards and Objectives (CSOs) in the areas of Mathematics, Reading/Language Arts, Social Studies and Science.

All public school students enrolled in grades 3-11 will participate in WESTEST 2 at the grade level in which they are enrolled, unless they meet the criteria for participation in the West Virginia Alternate Performance Task Assessment (APTA). The testing window for the first session of WESTEST 2, Online Writing, will be March 1 through April 30, 2010.

A parent brochure, *Preparing for the West Virginia Educational Standards Test 2 (WESTEST 2)*, provided with this mailing is to be sent home with each student in your county taking the WESTEST 2. The brochure describes the WESTEST 2 and explains how the test results are used to measure students' levels of performance on the West Virginia 21st Century Content Standards and Objectives.

For your convenience, a letter is included as a cover letter to introduce WESTEST 2 and the parent brochure. If you wish, you may draft your own parent letter.

More than 250 West Virginia teachers were involved in the WESTEST 2 development process. This widespread involvement is one of our proudest accomplishments in the WESTEST 2 development process.

If you have questions with regard to assessment issues, please feel free to contact the Office of Assessment, Accountability and Research at (304) 558-2546.

SP/JS:th

Enclosures

c: County Superintendents

April, 2010

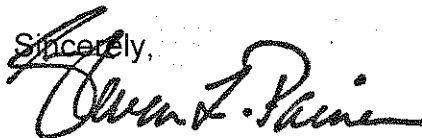
Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

The West Virginia Department of Education will administer the West Virginia Educational Standards Test 2 (WESTEST 2) May 17-28, 2010. The WESTEST 2 is aligned to the West Virginia 21st Century Content Standards and Objectives (CSOs) in the areas of Mathematics, Reading/Language Arts, Social Studies and Science.

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In order to prepare students for this annual assessment, the Office of Assessment, Accountability and Research has designed a brochure for parents entitled *Preparing for the West Virginia Educational Standards Test 2 (WESTEST 2)* as an informational tool. This brochure describes the WESTEST 2 assessment, the types of test scores and the use of test results to measure students' levels of performance on the West Virginia 21st Century Content Standards and Objectives. The brochure is designed to be a compact, useful guide for understanding the WESTEST 2 components as you help prepare your child for participation this year.

I respectfully request that you encourage your child/children to perform to his/her best ability during the WESTEST 2 this spring. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the county test coordinator at your county's central office.

Sincerely,


Steven L. Paine
State Superintendent of Schools