



West Virginia

Department of Education

MEMORANDUM

*Dr. Steven L. Paine, State Superintendent of Schools
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Building 6
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0330
Phone: 304-558-2681
Fax: 304-558-0048*

<http://wvde.state.wv.us>

TO: County Test Coordinators

FROM: Jan Barth, Executive Director
Office of Student Assessment Services

SUBJECT: West Virginia Alternate Performance Task Assessment (*APTA*)

DATE: April 10, 2006

The West Virginia Department of Education will be administering the West Virginia Alternate Performance Task Assessment (*APTA*) in May 2006. *APTA* is aligned with the West Virginia Extended Academic Content Standards, which are linked to the Content Standard and Objectives (CSOs) in the areas of Mathematics and Reading/Language Arts.

As per your child's IEP, he/she will be administered the *APTA* in place of WESTEST. Your child's score will be based on the Extended Academic Content Standards/Objectives/Descriptors measured per *APTA*.

The testing window for *APTA* is May 1-12, 2006. All public school students meeting the participation criteria and enrolled in grades 3-8 and 10 will participate in *APTA* at the grade level in which they are enrolled. Students taking *APTA* must meet the participation guidelines as set forth in the *West Virginia Guidelines for Participation in State Assessments*.

A parent brochure, *West Virginia Alternate Performance Task Assessment (APTA)* is provided with this mailing for each student participating in *APTA* in your county. The parent brochure describes the assessment and explains how the test results are used to measure students' levels of performance on the West Virginia Extended Academic Content Standards in Mathematics and Reading/Language Arts.

It is important to note that over 70 West Virginia educators were involved in the *APTA* development process. These tests could not have been developed without the assistance of our West Virginia educators. The educator stakeholder involvement has been one of our most valuable resources in the *APTA* development process.

For your convenience, a cover letter for your use is included to introduce *APTA* and the parent brochure. If you wish, you may draft your own parent letter instead.

I sincerely wish you a very successful administration of *APTA*. If you have questions with regard to assessment issues, please feel free to contact the Office of Student Assessment Services at (304) 558-2546.

SP/BJ:tm

Enclosures

Cc: County Superintendents

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION
2005-2006

Lowell E. Johnson, President; Delores W. Cook, Vice President; Priscilla M. Haden, Secretary
Robert W. Dunlevy, Member; Barbara N. Fish, Member; Sheila M. Hamilton, Member; Burma Hatfield, Member; Jenny N. Phillips, Member; Ronald B. Spencer, Member
James L. Skidmore, Ex Officio; Steven L. Paine, Ex Officio