



West Virginia
Department of Education

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Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

The West Virginia Department of Education will be administering the West Virginia Educational Standards Test (WESTEST) in May 2007. The WESTEST is aligned with the West Virginia Content Standards and Objectives (CSOs) in the areas of Mathematics, Reading/Language Arts, Social Studies and Science.

The testing window for WESTEST is May 14-18, 2007. Make-up testing will be conducted the following week, May 21-25, 2007. All public school students enrolled in grades 3-8 and 10 will participate in the WESTEST, or the West Virginia Alternate Performance Task Assessment (APTA) to WESTEST, at the grade level at which they are enrolled in the current school year.

In order to prepare students for this annual assessment, the Office of Student Assessment Services has designed a brochure for parents titled *Preparing for the West Virginia Educational Standards Test (WESTEST)* as an informational tool. This brochure describes the WESTEST assessment, the types of test scores and the use of test results to measure students' levels of performance on the West Virginia Content Standards and Objectives. The brochure is designed to be a compact, useful guide for understanding the WESTEST components as you 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 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