

Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item



Agenda Item: T

Date: June 27, 2013

Title	First Review of Recommended Cut Scores for the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) in Reading and Mathematics for Grades 3 – 8 and High School, in Writing for Grades 5, 8, and High School and in Science for Grades 3, 5, 8, and High School		
Presenter	Mrs. Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Student Assessment and School Improvement		
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Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by Board of Education regulation.

Previous Review or Action:

No previous review or action.

Action Requested:

Other. Specify below:

Action: First review waived with request that final action be taken at this meeting.

Alignment with Board of Education Goals: Please indicate (X) all that apply:

X	Goal 1: Accountability for Student Learning
X	Goal 2: Rigorous Standards to Promote College and Career Readiness
	Goal 3: Expanded Opportunities to Learn
	Goal 4: Nurturing Young Learners
	Goal 5: Highly Qualified and Effective Educators
	Goal 6: Sound Policies for Student Success
	Goal 7: Safe and Secure Schools
	Other Priority or Initiative. Specify:

Background Information and Statutory Authority:

Goal 2: The approval of cut scores on the new Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) in reading and mathematics for grades 3 through 8 and high school, writing for grades 5, 8, and high school, and science for grades 3, 5, and 8 and high school will help schools and school divisions increase the academic success of students with disabilities.

Goal 4: The approval of a cut score on the new VAAP assessments for reading, mathematics, writing, and science will support the development of literacy and mathematics skills of students with disabilities.

The Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) is intended to assess the achievement of students with significant cognitive disabilities who are unable to participate in the Standards of Learning (SOL) assessment program. A compilation of student work called a Collection of Evidence is prepared for students participating in VAAP. Work samples used for the Collections of Evidence are intended to demonstrate the student's achievement of the Aligned Standards of Learning (ASOL) which are based on the Standards of Learning (SOL) but reduced in depth and complexity. Students must submit work samples for one ASOL in each reporting category for each subject area. Work samples are scored on a four point scale with a score of 1 representing *little evidence* that the student has demonstrated the skills and knowledge stated in the ASOL being addressed and a score of 4 representing *ample evidence* that the skills and knowledge have been demonstrated. Typically when new SOL are adopted by the Board of Education, new ASOL for students participating in VAAP are also developed.

In 2011 Virginia joined a consortium of 13 states that are working together to develop a new type of alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. This consortium, called The Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment System Consortium, is developing assessments in reading, writing, and mathematics which will be available for administration in the 2014-2015 school year. The DLM assessments will be administered online and will be computer adaptive so that students taking the assessments will be provided with items/tasks that are appropriate to their ability levels. In addition, the assessments will be instructionally embedded so that students will participate throughout the year rather than being assessed at one point in time. While most students will be able to take the assessment online, teachers will be able to provide an alternate method of testing for students who cannot access the assessment online. The content standards for the DLM assessments, which are based on the Common Core State Standards and aligned to Virginia's SOL, are referred to as the "essential elements" and have been developed to provide access to students at even the lowest levels of cognitive functioning.

In 2012-2013 new assessments in reading, writing, and science, based on the SOL adopted by the Board in 2010, were administered for the first time. As a result of this change, new ASOL based on these new SOL were developed for use with VAAP collections in these content areas. In preparation for the transition to the new DLM assessments in 2014-2015, the ASOL for reading and writing used to develop the VAAP collections in 2012-2013 were based on the DLM essential elements. In addition, based on feedback from school divisions, the mathematics ASOL used in 2012-2013 for the VAAP collections were also revised to reflect the DLM content. Because the DLM essential elements do not include science, the ASOL for science are based on the SOL adopted by the Board in 2010. Because of the change in content represented by the ASOL in reading, writing, mathematics and science, new cut scores for the VAAP collections in these content areas must be approved. In June 2013 committees of special educators were convened to review VAAP Collections of Evidence for reading, writing, mathematics and science and to recommend cut scores for pass/proficient and pass/advanced to the Virginia Board of Education.

Summary of Important Issues:

Recommended cut scores for the achievement levels of pass/proficient and pass/advanced for VAAP reading and mathematics for students in grades 3 through 8 and high school, VAAP writing for students in grades 5, 8, and high school, and VAAP science for students in grades 3, 5, 8 and high school will be presented to the Board. Information about the cut scores may be found in Attachment A.

Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

N/A

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Upon approval by the Board of Education, cut scores for VAAP will be disseminated to school divisions via a Superintendent’s Memorandum.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board waive first review and adopt cut scores for the achievement levels of pass/proficient and pass/advanced for the VAAP in mathematics, reading, writing and science so that student scores can be reported and federal accountability ratings can be calculated without delay.

Reading

- Grade 3: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 4: 8 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 5: 8 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 6: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 7: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 8: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- High School: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced

Mathematics

- Grade 3: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 4: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 5: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 6: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 7: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 8: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced
- High School: 7 out of 12 points for pass/proficient and 10 out of 12 points for pass/advanced

Writing

- Grade 5: 5 out of 8 points for pass/proficient and 8 out of 8 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 8: 5 out of 8 points for pass/proficient and 8 out of 8 points for pass/advanced
- High School: 5 out of 8 points for pass/proficient and 7 out of 8 points for pass/advanced

Science

- Grade 3: 9 out of 16 points for pass/proficient, and 14 out of 16 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 5: 9 out of 16 points for pass/proficient, and 14 out of 16 points for pass/advanced
- Grade 8: 12 out of 20 points for pass/proficient, and 18 out of 20 points for pass/advanced
- High School: 12 out of 20 points for pass/proficient, and 18 out of 20 points for pass/advanced

**Summary and Background Information on Proposed Cut Scores
for the Reading, Mathematics, Writing, and Science VAAP Based on 2010 Aligned Standards of Learning**

Reading	Pass/Proficient			Pass/Advanced		
	Background Information	Standard Setting Summary		Background Information	Standard Setting Summary	
Grade	Pass/Proficient Cut Score for Previous Reading VAAP	Articulation Committee Recommendation	Superintendent's Recommendation	Pass/Advanced Cut Score for Previous Reading VAAP	Articulation Committee Recommendation	Superintendent's Recommendation
Grade 3	4 out of 8 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	6 out of 8 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 4	4 out of 8 points	8 out of 12 points	8 out of 12 points	6 out of 8 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 5	4 out of 8 points	8 out of 12 points	8 out of 12 points	6 out of 8 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 6	4 out of 8 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	6 out of 8 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 7	4 out of 8 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	6 out of 8 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 8	4 out of 8 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	6 out of 8 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
High School	4 out of 8 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	6 out of 8 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points

**Summary and Background Information on Proposed Cut Scores
for the Reading, Mathematics, Writing, and Science VAAP Based on 2010 Aligned Standards of Learning**

Mathematics	Pass/Proficient			Pass/Advanced		
	Background Information	Standard Setting Summary		Background Information	Standard Setting Summary	
Grade	Pass/Proficient Cut Score for Previous Mathematics VAAP	Articulation Committee Recommendation	Superintendent's Recommendation	Pass/Advanced Cut Score for Previous Mathematics VAAP	Articulation Committee Recommendation	Superintendent's Recommendation
Grade 3	8 out of 16 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	14 out of 16 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 4	8 out of 16 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	14 out of 16 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 5	8 out of 16 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	14 out of 16 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 6	8 out of 16 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	14 out of 16 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 7	8 out of 16 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	14 out of 16 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
Grade 8	8 out of 16 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	14 out of 16 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points
High School	8 out of 16 points	7 out of 12 points	7 out of 12 points	14 out of 16 points	10 out of 12 points	10 out of 12 points

**Summary and Background Information on Proposed Cut Scores
for the Reading, Mathematics, Writing, and Science VAAP Based on 2010 Aligned Standards of Learning**

Writing	Pass/Proficient			Pass/Advanced		
	Background Information	Standard Setting Summary		Background Information	Standard Setting Summary	
Grade	Pass/Proficient Cut Score for Previous Writing VAAP	Committee Recommendation (Round 3)	Superintendent's Recommendation	Pass/Advanced Cut Score for Previous Writing VAAP	Committee Recommendation (Round 3)	Superintendent's Recommendation
Grade 5	4 out of 8 points	5 out of 8 points	5 out of 8 points	7 out of 8 points	8 out of 8 points	8 out of 8 points
Grade 8	4 out of 8 points	5 out of 8 points	5 out of 8 points	7 out of 8 points	8 out of 8 points	8 out of 8 points
High School	4 out of 8 points	5 out of 8 points	5 out of 8 points	7 out of 8 points	7 out of 8 points	7 out of 8 points
Science	Pass/Proficient			Pass/Advanced		
	Background Information	Standard Setting Summary		Background Information	Standard Setting Summary	
Grade	Pass/Proficient Cut Score for Previous Science VAAP	Articulation Committee Recommendation	Superintendent's Recommendation	Pass/Advanced Cut Score for Previous Science VAAP	Articulation Committee Recommendation	Superintendent's Recommendation
Grade 3	9 out of 16 points	9 out of 16 points	9 out of 16 points	13 out of 16 points	14 out of 16 points	14 out of 16 points
Grade 5	9 out of 16 points	9 out of 16 points	9 out of 16 points	13 out of 16 points	14 out of 16 points	14 out of 16 points
Grade 8	9 out of 16 points	12 out of 20 points	12 out of 20 points	13 out of 16 points	18 out of 20 points	18 out of 20 points
High School	9 out of 16 points	12 out of 20 points	12 out of 20 points	13 out of 16 points	18 out of 20 points	18 out of 20 points