

CURRICULUM UPDATES

Educators can now contribute to the Model Curriculum

ODE invites educators to send in ideas that support Ohio's new (2010) academic content standards. Suggestions for instructional strategies, materials or resources, and examples of successful classroom projects or investigations are welcome. To share related information, please complete the online submission form found [here](#).

Regional workshops to introduce Ohio's new learning standards for K-12 world languages

In June, the State Board of Education adopted new learning standards for K-12 world languages. ODE has scheduled a series of regional workshops this fall to introduce the new standards to interested stakeholders including teachers, curriculum directors and other district decision-makers who are responsible for their full implementation by the 2014-2015 academic year. All meetings will be held from 5-7 pm.

Regional Workshops: Meeting Dates and Locations		
Date	Region	Location
Sept. 25	West Central	Piqua High School (Piqua/Dayton-Springfield Metro Area)
Sept. 26	Northeast	Jackson High School (Massillon/Akron-Canton Metro Area)
Sept. 27	East Central	Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center (Zanesville)
Oct. 1	Northwest	Wood County Educational Service Center (Bowling Green)
Oct. 3	Southeast	Ohio University (Athens)
Oct. 4	South Central	Unioto High School (Chillicothe)
Oct. 11	Southwest	Finneytown High School (Finneytown/Cincinnati Metro Area)
Oct. 17	Northeast	Hudson High School (Hudson/Cleveland-Akron Metro Area)
Oct. 24	Central	Gahanna Clark Hall (Gahanna/Columbus Metro Area)

Attendees must register using the STARS system, which will require registrants to access their (or create a new) [SAFE account](#). Find more information and register on STARS using the keywords: *world language*.

Physical education evaluation training workshops to be held this fall

Senate Bill 210 identifies four components that will make up a new measure related to health and wellness that will appear on Local and State Report Cards for 2012-2013. Those components are benchmark evaluation, body mass index (BMI), physical activity and compliance with local wellness policy. To help teachers determine if the benchmarks of the first component are being met, ODE has developed an evaluation instrument that will measure student success in meeting targets contained in the physical education academic content standards.

To learn more about the physical education evaluation, educators can attend a free Physical Education Evaluation Training workshop. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Individuals must register through STARS by first accessing (or creating) a [SAFE accounts](#) Dates, times and locations for the training sessions are listed in STARS. For more information, see the calendar link at the top left of [education.ohio.gov](#) or contact Lisa Lyle Henry at lisa.henry@education.ohio.gov.

OAC offers Poetry Out Loud contest for high school students

The Ohio Arts Council (OAC) – in partnership with Thurber House, the Ohioana Library, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation – is offering the national recitation contest *Poetry Out Loud* in 2012-2013. This program provides an exciting avenue for high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance. *Poetry Out Loud* helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence and learn about their literary heritage. Free teacher toolkits, artist workshops and coaching are available through the Ohio Arts Council. Classroom activities begin in the fall and conclude with school competitions. Winners advance to the Ohio finals in Columbus on March 16. Cash prizes will be

awarded and Ohio's state champion will win an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals on April 28-30. For more details and online registration, please visit the project's [website](#).

ASSESSMENT UPDATES

Fall 2012 OAA Grade 3 Reading administration dates are approaching

The Fall 2012 OAA grade 3 reading assessment will be administered **Oct. 1-5**. Test materials for districts that confirmed participation during the on-time order window should have arrived the week of Sept. 17; preID labels will be sent in a separate shipment the week of Sept. 24.

Districts that did not confirm participation during the on-time window will have the opportunity to do so during the additional order window: **Sept. 17-Oct. 3**. Districts are reminded to use all overage materials shipped to the district test coordinators **BEFORE** placing orders for additional materials.

This reminder is intended to encourage districts to be mindful of the number of materials ordered and those unused materials returned to the vendor. Pre-ID files to order labels are **not** accepted during the additional order window.

Get ready for Fall 2012 OGT

The Fall 2012 OGT will be administered **Oct. 22 to Nov. 4**. Test materials for districts that confirmed participation during the on-time order window will arrive **Oct. 5**. Districts that did not confirm participation during the on-time window will have the opportunity to do so during the additional order window of Sept. 25 to **Oct. 30**. Pre-ID files to order labels are not accepted during the additional order window.

Who can take the Fall 2012 OGT?

Students in grades 11 and 12 who have not passed all required tests should participate in the fall administration of the OGT. Students in grade 10 or below should not participate. Students repeating grade 10 may participate if the district determines that the students will be in grade 11 by the end of the school year. Students below grade 10 enrolled in state-approved STEM schools also may participate in the OGT. In addition, those students enrolled in adult education programs or classified as "OGT Only" may participate.

Foreign exchange student procedures for OGT reviewed

All foreign exchange students classified as grade 10 or above must take the OGT. For the 2012 fall administration, foreign exchange students classified as grade 11 or 12 must take the OGT. Spring 2013 administration of the OGT for foreign exchange students should include first-time grade 10 test-takers and grade 11 and 12 students who have not passed all portions of the OGT.

Additional information concerning the administration of the OGT to foreign exchange students may be found [here](#) or by visiting education.ohio.gov, keyword search: *program rules book*. Reference: ORC 3313.61(H) and OAC 3301-13-01-(D)(12)(b).

The National Assessment Governing Board seeking individuals to serve on board

The National Assessment Governing Board is seeking nominations of qualified individuals to serve on this independent, bipartisan board. One of its purposes is to set policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as The Nation's Report Card. Governing Board members play an important role in determining how the United States measures student achievement, lending their unique perspectives to the national conversation on education. The U.S. Secretary of Education will appoint new members from a list of finalists submitted by the board for terms beginning Oct. 1, 2013. For 2013, the Governing Board seeks nominations for five positions in these four categories:

- *Elementary school principal;*
- *Testing and measurement expert;*
- *Democratic state legislator; and*
- *General public representative (two positions).*

Information about the positions and the nominating process is posted [here](#). To learn more about the Governing Board and its membership and responsibilities, please visit the board's [website](#).

NAEP 2013 is assessing reading and mathematics in Grades 4, 8 and 12

Ohio schools will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in 2013. NAEP 2013 – which will assess reading and mathematics at grades 4, 8 and 12 – will yield national results for these three grades. The state of Ohio and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District will receive state and district scores, respectively, for grades 4 and 8.

Ohio also is participating in a national pilot for Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) at grade 8. TEL is a scenario-based assessment that is delivered by computer. The administrative timeframe for 2013 NAEP is Jan. 28 through March 8, 2013.

Nominations open for Next Generation of Science and Social Studies Content Advisory Committees

ODE's Office of Curriculum and Assessment is looking for Ohio educators and other stakeholders to serve as members on Content Advisory Committees for the next generation of science and social studies assessments. The purpose of these committees is to review and evaluate test questions and related test materials to ensure that each question is aligned with, and is a valid and appropriate measure of, Ohio's new learning standards for science and social studies.

Stakeholders should have a good working knowledge of, and experience with, Ohio's new learning standards for science and social studies at the elementary, middle school and high school grade levels and can work cooperatively in both a committee setting and an online environment.

All meetings will be held in Columbus. Please note the following:

- For those meeting participants who are more than 45 miles from the meeting location, hotel accommodations will be provided;
- For all eligible meeting participants, costs for substitute teachers will be reimbursed directly to the school districts;
- All meeting participants will be reimbursed for mileage (\$.45 cents per mile);
- Expense forms and reimbursement guidelines will be distributed at the meeting.

The first Science and Social Studies Content Advisory Committee meetings will be held to review test specifications and are scheduled as follows:

Science and Social Studies Content Advisory Committee Fall 2012 Meeting Dates	
Content and Grade	Dates
Science Grade 5	Oct. 16-17
Social Studies Grade 4	Oct.16-17
Science Grade 8	Oct. 23-24
Social Studies Grade 6	Oct. 23-24
High School Biology	Oct. 25-26
High School Physical Science	Oct. 18-19
High School American Government	Oct. 25-26
High School American History	Oct. 18-19

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else to serve on one of the Science or Social Studies Content Advisory Committee meetings, please complete and submit the [online nomination form](#) by **Friday, Sept. 28**. Please be specific when requesting one of the committees by including grade level/content area.

Questions may be directed to the Office of Curriculum and Assessment at (614) 446-0223 or contact Marie-Elena (Lana) Hall at marie-elena.hall@education.ohio.gov.

New extended standards available now; fall trainings scheduled

The State Board of Education has adopted the [Ohio Academic Content Standards–Extended](#) (OACS-E) for students who will participate in the alternate assessments during the 2012-2013 school year. These standards are for students with significant cognitive disabilities and signal a significant shift in expectations and instructional practices for students with disabilities.

This fall, teachers have the opportunity to take part in both online and face-to-face trainings about the extended standards before they administer the alternate assessments next spring. Educators can create an account and earn contact hours for completing the [online modules](#). Regional face-to-face meetings during the fall will help educators become familiar with the extended standards and guide their instruction. Contact your [State Support Team \(SST\)](#) for more information on OACS in-person training.

Alternate assessment training scheduled

SSTs also will be providing training on the new Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD) later in the school year. Until now, the AASCD consisted of a portfolio-based collection of evidence. Because changes have been made, test administrators will be required to take training on the new AASCD. Most of the trainings will be held in January 2013. More information about the Alternate Assessment trainings will be available from the SSTs at a later date, but you may contact your [SST](#) if you have questions. The AASCD test coordinator manual and the Directions for the Administration Manual are available [here](#).

Please note that the alternate assessment trainings are separate from the extended standards trainings and one is not a prerequisite for the other.

Please note updates on diagnostic assessments

The intent of the state's diagnostic assessments is to determine students' strengths and weaknesses, as well as to provide intervention. Please note the following points regarding diagnostic assessments:

- As required by the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee, districts and community schools must administer a reading diagnostic to all kindergarten through grade 3 students by Sept. 30, 2012. Districts and community schools may choose the state-developed diagnostic assessments or vendor diagnostic assessments.
- For the kindergarten diagnostic required for the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee, the Kindergarten Reading Assessment – Literacy (KRA-L) can be used to meet the requirement. ***Note that use of the KRA-L for this purpose is a recent change*** – please see the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee Guidance Document posted [here](#) for details.
- The **writing** and **mathematics** diagnostic assessments are required and may be administered at any time during the school year to all students in grades 1 and 2.
- The reading, writing and mathematics diagnostic results will be submitted to EMIS at the end of the school year. There is no requirement to submit the reading diagnostic results on Sept. 30.
- Please note that there are no special versions for the state-developed diagnostic assessments such as Braille, large print, audio CDs, etc.

Please review two related guidance documents posted [here](#) (on the State-Developed Diagnostic Assessments and the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee). Questions may be directed to Paula Mahaley at (614) 466-0217 or paula.mahaley@education.ohio.gov.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Using Formative Instructional Practices to unlock new standards

The first step of effective formative instructional practice is creating and using clear learning targets. As schools transition to the Common Core State Standards and Ohio's new learning standards, teachers are preparing by spending time planning instruction and assessment of the new standards.

To help teachers deepen their understanding of new standards and see how Ohio's Model Curriculum supports this learning, FIP Your School is introducing a series of free online learning paths. These resources will provide teachers exemplars and practice deconstructing new standards, creating and classifying learning targets, and organizing the targets into logical progressions for learning.

There will be a learning path for each of four core subject areas. Each subject area will have three modules – one each for the elementary, middle school and high school levels. Login at FIPYourSchoolOhio.org for module access instructions and additional information about the programs:

- **Currently available** – Login to the [Ohio Student Progress Portal](#) to view the first learning path, *Creating Clear Learning Targets in English Language Arts*.
- **Available this fall** – Creating Clear Learning Target learning paths will be presented in mathematics, social studies and science at the three instructional levels noted above.

ITSCO's third annual Technology Leadership Symposium: Education Everywhere

ITSCO's Technology Leadership Symposium: Education Everywhere will be held Oct. 15 in Worthington. This symposium will provide administrators with perspectives from experts around the state about using mobile technology, 1:1 computing and cloud-based technology to enhance teaching and learning in PreK-12 classrooms. The keynote speaker will be George Couros, division principal of Innovative Teaching and Learning for Parkland School Division in Alberta, Canada. Table sessions will be led by Educational Technology administrators and statewide experts. To learn more or to register, visit the [ITSCO](#) website.

Free classroom webinars offered by INFOhio

INFOhio offers free webinars your faculty and staff can use to earn CEUs. Upcoming sessions include:

- Sept. 27 – *Common Core Tools You Can Use from INFOhio*; and
- Oct. 4 – *Research Curriculum Gymnastics: TRAILS as a Springboard to a FLIP* (Freshman Level Interest Project).

All sessions are from 3:30-4:30 pm. If that time is inconvenient, all webinars are archived for later viewing. To register for an upcoming session or to view a previous one, visit this [INFOhio Web page](#).

GO! INFOhio resource provides step-by-step research help

Research projects can be overwhelming for middle and high school students just learning the ropes. Have your students take a deep breath and visit INFOhio's *GO! Ask! Act! Achieve!* website. It includes forms and electronic resources to help students focus on just one step of a project at a time and stay on track from start to finish. For more information and to review the comprehensive Teacher's Guide, visit the site [here](#).

Find help with Common Core, blended learning and the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee

[INFOhio's Toolkit](#) can help educators start meeting the demands of the Common Core, blended learning and the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. Under Common Core, you will find specific resources to incorporate into the classroom now. Also, under Bookmarks and Flyers, find resources to share with students to help them with research, online learning and more. And to keep up with resources available nationally on the Common Core, check out INFOhio's [Symbaloo Gallery](#).

Thought of the month

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire. – *William Butler Yeats*

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