

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and School Support

TO: Elementary Principals **DATE:** August 12, 2010

FROM: Judy Elliott, Chief Academic Officer

**SUBJECT: ELEMENTARY LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) ASSESSMENTS—
SACRAMENTO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION (SCOE) AND NEW!
PERIODIC ASSESSMENT PILOT FOR GRADES 2-5**

The 2010-2011 school year will be a transition year for the Elementary Language Arts Assessment Program. This is the final year that the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE)-developed assessments, which are aligned to the instructional sequence and standards of *Open Court Reading*, *Lectura*, and *Foro Abierto*, will be administered. These will be replaced by the COREK-12-developed periodic assessments in 2011-2012. Please note: the newly-developed periodic assessments will be piloted during the 2010-2011 school year. This memo describes delivery information for SCOE assessments and how to apply to participate in the pilot program for the COREK-12 ELA assessments.

ASSESSMENTS FROM SACRAMENTO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

To assist with the final administration of the SCOE-developed assessments, the following information is provided:

- Shipment of K-3 assessment materials to Non-Reading First (NRF) schools begins the week of August 16, 2010 with all schools receiving materials by August 25, 2010.
- Assessment materials for Reading First (RF) schools are currently at the school site. Grades K-3 assessments, delivered in August 2009, were for two years of test administration.
- Grades 4-5 assessments for all schools are non-consumable and should already be at school sites. Student answer sheets can be downloaded from the lausd.net/literacy website, Elementary Resources. Schools are responsible for reproducing the answer sheets, including the student answer sheets for fluency assessments.

Any elementary school that needs additional SCOE-developed assessments for the 2010-2011 administration should contact the local district literacy staff after September 7, 2010. See Attachment C for the list of Local District literacy contacts.

NEW! PERIODIC ASSESSMENT PILOT FOR GRADES 2-5

For the 2010-2011 school year, the District's contract with COREK-12 includes the development of periodic assessments in grades 2-5 with the potential to expand to K-1. These will be piloted at selected elementary schools and will involve approximately 10,000 students. At elementary schools that include grade 6 the District's 6th grade English/language arts (ELA) periodic assessment will be administered.

The elementary ELA periodic assessments will be aligned to grade level standards with a focus on the essential standards identified on the CST Blueprints and on the West-Ed document that correlates the English Language Arts-English Language Development standards.

The pilot assessments, administered three times during the school year, will have 48-60 items per assessment. Test items will be similar in format and in the knowledge and cognitive demand levels of CST release questions. For each administration there will be an assessment window that affords schools and teachers flexibility.

Although participation in this pilot is optional, the final selection of pilot schools will be determined by the following:

- Student demographics
- School's language arts curriculum (e.g., Open Court Reading, other standards-based program)
- Local District representation
- Context of school improvement (e.g. PI status, new school, etc.)
- Input from Local District Administrator of Instruction

Participation in the pilot is also contingent upon receiving a school's commitment to adhere to all pilot requirements (See Attachment A). Click here to complete the electronic form: [Request to Participate](#). For consideration for the pilot, all Requests to Participate must be received on August 27, 2010, by 5:00 p.m. You will receive confirmation the form was submitted electronically. Attachment B is sample of the electronic form. No print copies will be accepted. Announcement of pilot schools will be made on or before September 1, 2010.

Schools selected for the pilot will receive a shipment of Elementary Language Arts assessments, individual student answer sheets, and extended constructed response booklets. Schools are to follow the same procedures as the Math COREK-12 periodic assessments for sending, scanning, scoring, and reporting.

Information regarding support, including professional development, for Elementary Language Arts periodic assessments, i.e., Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) in K, 1, and 2 will be provided at a later date.

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact Alison Pickering at (213) 241-6444 or alison.pickering@lausd.net. Thank you for all you that do to make a difference in the lives of students, staff, and families of LAUSD.

Cc: Ramon Cortines

John Deasy

Michelle King

Local District Superintendents

Local District Administrators of Instruction

Local District Directors

Matt Hill

Sharon Robinson

Cynthia Lim

Alison Towery

Susan Tandberg

ATTACHMENT A

ELA PILOT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS

By submitting a request to participate in the 2010-2011 Elementary Language Arts Periodic Assessment Pilot, the school is agreeing to:

- administer the Elementary Language Arts Pilot assessments three times a year in accordance with the administration guidelines and assessment windows (forthcoming).
- mail assessments per District instructions for scoring and reporting on the COREK-12 platform (same as the procedures for the math assessment).
- have all identified teachers complete a survey/response form after each assessment administration (3 times per year), if requested.
- participate, in a focus group to provide feedback to the developers to improve the assessments for full-scale implementation in the 2011-2012 school year, if requested.
- administer the elementary pilot periodic assessments in all grades 2-5.
- continue to administer the Sacramento County Office of Education assessments for the 2010-2011 school years (schools using Open Court).

Request to Participate: Elementary Language Arts - PILOT Periodic Assessment Program (Grades 2-5)

REQUESTS **MUST** BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY. PRINT COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please click here to complete the electronic form: [Request to Participate](#).

Please complete the short form below to be considered for the Elementary Language Arts (ELA) PILOT Periodic Assessment Program. Please note: Submissions made by 5:00 p.m. August 27, 2010 will be considered.

You must click on the submit button when you are finished. If you do not receive a confirmation from Google Docs, please email karen.williams@lausd.net for assistance.

* Required

Local District: *

School Name: *

Full Name of Principal: *

Agreements: *

By checking this box, you (the principal or designee) are acknowledging that you have read and agree to the commitments on Attachment A of the inter-office relating to the ELA PILOT Periodic Assessment Program.

Name of Person Completing the Form (if other than the principal):

Position of Person Completing the Form (if other than the principal):

Submit

LOCAL DISTRICT LITERACY SUPPORT

LOCAL DISTRICT	ELEMENTARY LITERACY CONTACT
1	Gina Virtue
2	Kate Scanlon-Double
3	Elestine Smittick
4	Kathy Stehr
5	Dalys Stewart
6	Michael Blount
7	Pamela Gray
8	Nancy Kotkosky