



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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School Administrators Urge Caution with SBAC Scores

Statewide Smarter Balanced test scores released today mark a new student learning baseline

OLYMPIA—The Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA), the state’s largest professional association representing school district administrators, encouraged educators and families to view today’s Smarter Balanced Achievement Consortium (SBAC) test results as one piece of vital feedback in the education of Washington’s public school students.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction released test results today for the English Language Arts and mathematics exams, which are based on the new Common Core curriculum standards administered in grades 3-8 and 11th grade.

“It is important that everyone in our school community – administrators, teachers, students and their families – understand that this is one tool used to assess a student’s learning and that educators will use this feedback to better inform instruction when the new school year begins,” said Dr. Bill Keim, WASA executive director. “This is a new exam, tied to new standards, and so it is difficult and inappropriate to draw comparisons based on students’ performance on previous state exams. We urge teachers and school administrators view the results as a snapshot of student learning that can be used to focus student learning and provide additional resources as needed.

“Essentially, today’s score release represents the establishment of a new baseline for state testing. The important work will come in the days that follow, as educators work to bring students up to standard, and help those at or above standard continue their educational progress,” added Keim. “It is our hope these new exams will give students and educators a better sense of how to target instruction to ensure students are learning and achieving their academic best.”

About the Washington Association of School Administrators

The Washington Association of School Administrators (<http://www.wasa-oly.org>) is committed to the development of quality education through professional leadership. Members benefit from a supportive community of professional leaders working to provide insightful and valuable training, support, and resources to education leaders, and to sustain a positive impact on legislative and community leaders. With more than 1,575 members, membership is open to all education administrators in central office, building management, and educational agency positions. A not-for-profit organization, WASA is funded by membership dues and association events.

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