

TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Pat Roschewski, Director of Statewide Assessment

SUBJECT: Standard Setting Contract – NeSA-Writing

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approve an amendment to the DRC contract for the 2012 NeSA-Writing standard setting in grades 8 and 11.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The NeSA-Writing Assessment is being scored in 2012 for the first time in a different way than in the last 10 years. In the past a single cut score was set for student performance classifications of either “Proficient” or “Not Proficient.” In 2012, students, teachers, and districts will not only receive additional scoring information for content, organization, voice/word choice, and conventions, they will also receive a scale score from 0-70.

The new approach to scoring will allow the NDE to both report writing scale scores and to classify student performance into the same categories that are used for the reporting of reading, mathematics, and science: “Exceeds the Standards, Meets the Standards,” and “Below the Standards.” The classification process will require a new standard setting in grades 8 and 11.

DRC offered the standard setting option as part of their original contract (Contract 32054, Attachment B). We are now asking the board to allow the Commissioner to exercise that option.

Cost: Up to \$51,521.00

For additional information on this item: Call Pat Roschewski 402-471-2495,
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