



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

FROM: Valorie Foy, Director of Statewide Assessment

SUBJECT: NeSA-Writing Cut Scores-4th Grade- Work Session and Action item

Proposed Board Action:

Approve the recommended "cut scores" for the NeSA –Writing assessments in grade 4.

Background Information:

The State Board of Education is charged with the responsibility of establishing the "cut scores" for state tests to determine the levels of student performance that will be classified in the following three categories:
"Exceeds the Standards"
"Meets the Standards"
"Below the Standards"
New cut scores are being set in 2013 for the NeSA-Writing assessments in grade 4 because the 2013 writing assessments in this grade changed to analytic scoring. Although the cut scores will be based on the total score, schools will receive sub-score information about student writing for the first time.

The 2013 cut score process occurred on March 21 with trained panelists representing Nebraska schools. Data Recognition Corporation facilitated the cut score process and validated it with a statistical analysis that resulted in recommended cut score ranges. The accountability sub-committee will overview the recommended ranges and will contribute input to the recommended cut scores that will be presented to the State Board at the April meeting.

Estimated Cost:

Supporting Documentation Included:

For Additional Information on this item:

Call Valorie Foy 402-471-2495 or email valorie.foy@nebraska.gov