

CURRICULUM UPDATES

Resources explain newly approved content standards

As you know, the State Board of Education has approved revised academic content standards in social studies and science as well as the Common Core State Standards in mathematics and English language arts. ODE staff members in these content areas have prepared documents summarizing the relationships between the 2001-2002 and 2010 standards. These resources will assist curriculum specialists and teachers in reviewing their current curricula and instruction in preparation for the transition to revised 2010 standards by 2014-2015. Below are links to Web pages containing information in each area:

- [Social studies](#);
- [Science](#);
- [English language arts](#);
- [Mathematics](#).

For more information about the standards revision and model curriculum development process, click [here](#) or visit education.ohio.gov and search keywords: *revised standards*.

Volunteers sought for Physical Education Benchmark Evaluation pilot program

ODE is seeking volunteers to participate in a pilot program to review and incorporate a draft evaluation into their classrooms to see how the evaluation tool accurately measures the physical education benchmarks. This evaluation will occur in grades two, five and eight, and at the end of high school programming.

Teachers who are physical education specialists, K-8 generalists teaching physical education, teachers with physical education embedded into general classroom settings and adapted physical education specialists are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be available on ODE's [Physical Education Web page](#) from **Monday, Oct. 18 through the application deadline date of Thursday, Nov. 4**. Applicants who are selected to participate in the pilot program will receive written notification in mid-December.

Inquiries regarding the pilot program can be directed to:

Lisa Lyle Henry
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street, Mail Stop 509
Columbus, Ohio 43215
lisa.henry@ode.state.oh.us
(614) 728-7732

Discussion begins on re-visioning Ohio's fine arts academic content standards

ODE's division of visual and performing arts invites K-12 teachers of dance, drama/theatre, music and visual art to participate in discussions to launch the review of Ohio's fine arts academic content standards. ODE wants to learn how current standards are impacting classroom practice and hear feedback on the proposed review process.

Consultants will hold two sessions for the four arts areas:

- **The music and drama/theatre session** will take place Monday, Nov. 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Wood County Educational Service Center, 1867 N. Research Drive, Bowling Green, 43402;
- **The visual art and dance session** will be held Tuesday, Nov. 16, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Worthington Schools Education Center, 200 E. Wilson Bridge Road, Worthington, 43085.

To register, please contact Vicky Kelly at vicky.kelly@ode.state.oh.us and provide her with the following information: complete name, school, district name and address, visual or performing arts area (dance drama/theatre, music or visual art), grade levels taught, years of teaching experience, daytime phone number. Also, please indicate the session you would like to attend. Space is limited to the first 45 educators who register for each session. Confirmation and details will be sent via e-mail. Please note that ODE has no funding to reimburse travel expenses.

Register by Nov. 19 for 2010-2011 Real World Design Challenge

High school teachers interested in having a team of students in grades 9-12 participate in the Ohio Governor's Cup portion of the national Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) must register by **Nov. 19**. So far, Ohio has 17 groups enrolled and is tied with Florida for having the most state-level teams. Last year, in the state's first year of participation, Ohio had more teams involved than any other state.

The challenge for state-level competitors is to create a flexible airplane wing design using composite materials. Student teams of up to seven members are provided six different software programs for technical and collaboration activities. They have access to a network of professional engineering mentors as they complete the analysis and modeling of their aviation design solutions. Ohio teams will be judged on Feb. 1, when the team with the best design will be selected for an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. for the national RWDC finals in mid-April.

Registered teams and their advisors will have access to weekly RWDC webinars and online tools. In addition, they may attend an information program during the Ohio Technology and Engineering Educators Association Fall Technology Workshops on **Nov. 6** at Bexley High School in Columbus. For more details and to register for RWDC, click [here](#). To view video from the 2010 RWDC national event, click [here](#). For additional information, contact Ohio RWDC Coordinator Dick Dieffenderfer at (614) 644-7356 or dick.dieffenderfer@ode.state.oh.us.

ASSESSMENT UPDATES

Online presentations to replace regional training workshops

For many years, ODE's Office of Assessment conducted regional training workshops across the state to provide information and updates about statewide testing programs. Beginning in 2009, these regional training workshops were cancelled due to cuts to ODE's assessment budget. The Office of Assessment is exploring different methods of presenting this information to districts. Many formats have been discussed and one format was chosen as a first step in replacing the regional meetings.

Presentations with voiceovers giving additional information are now available. To access this information, click [here](#). Or visit education.ohio.gov, click on the *Testing* link at the top of the page, then choose *Assessment Guidelines for District Test Personnel*. Four presentations have been posted:

- Ohio Achievement Assessments – Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 Administration Schedule;
- 2010 Fall Ohio Achievement Assessment in Reading Grade 3;
- Ohio Graduation Tests – Testing Requirements for Foreign Exchange Students; and
- Ohio Test of English Language Acquisition (OTELA) – Exit Criteria for Limited English Proficient Students.

Additional presentations on selected topics will be posted as they are completed. If you have any feedback or suggestions for future topics, please contact the Office of Assessment at (614) 466-0223.

Who can take the Fall 2010 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 who are enrolled in STEM schools also may participate in OGT.

Fall 2010 OGT invalidations

Fall 2010 OGT invalidations will be collected through TIDE from Oct. 25 through Nov. 18. To access the invalidations window in TIDE, click *Invalidations* and then enter the information specified, including the student's name, birth date, SSID (if available), grade, local ID (if available), pre-ID or generic barcode (if available), the subjects to be invalidated and the lithocode of the student's answer document. The lithocode can be found on the bottom right of the front cover of the answer document. TIDE now allows a district to delete an invalidation if the district makes a mistake entering the invalidation.

K-3 diagnostic assessments reminder

All districts must administer a diagnostic assessment to all grade 1 and 2 students in reading, mathematics and writing; to grade 3 students in writing for buildings in School Improvement; and to kindergarten transfer students.

Districts that made AYP last year may choose the diagnostic assessment to be administered. Districts that did not make AYP last year **must** use the state-developed diagnostic assessments. AYP is at the district level for diagnostic purposes. The state-developed diagnostic kits were sent several years ago to all grade K-3 classrooms to administer the reading, mathematics and writing diagnostic assessments.

The Kindergarten Readiness Assessment-Literacy ([KRA-L](#)) does **not** take the place of the diagnostic assessments; it is an entirely different assessment in addition to the diagnostic assessments. For districts that added new classrooms or built a new school, K-3 diagnostic kits are available.

Unfortunately, the Office of Assessment does not have enough diagnostic kits to replace those that districts may have misplaced or thrown out, thinking that because they previously had made AYP, they would not need the state-developed diagnostic assessments. Those districts will need to print these diagnostic assessments from the Web page and purchase the manipulative needed.

Grade 3 Reading Achievement Assessment results

The results for the October 2010 Grade 3 Reading Achievement Assessment will be made available to districts on Nov. 19 through the secure online [Ohio Online Assessment Reporting System](#). The hard-copy results will be sent to districts on Nov. 19. District test coordinators should contact the American Institutes for Research Ohio Help Desk at (888) 944-5001 or ohhelpdesk@air.org if no results were received. Districts and schools should submit a request for verification for possible problems with individual student results through the online TIDE system.

Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (AASWD) details announced

District test coordinators will enter enrollments and submit pre-ID files through TIDE Nov. 1-Dec. 2 for both the OAA-AASWD and OGT-AASWD. AASWD materials will be sent to districts the week of Jan. 10. AASWD Administration Manuals have been posted on this [Web page](#), which is also accessible at education.ohio.gov, keyword search: *alternate assessments*. Educators wishing to receive training on administering the AASWD should contact their regional state support teams.

2011 OAA Test administration to begin on April 25

The OAA test administration in 2011 will begin on April 25. Easter is on April 24 and many districts have scheduled or are considering scheduling spring break the week of April 25. Spring break during the week of April 25 will mean the district has the week of May 2 for the initial administration and the week of May 9 for make-up testing only. Districts cannot use the week of May 9 for initial administration. To meet the results deadline in June, the scorable materials need to be picked up during the rolling pickup period: May 6, May 9 and May 10. If this does not happen, the return of test results in June may be jeopardized. Please consider scheduling spring break the week prior to Easter. If time off is desired after Easter, perhaps the Monday following Easter also could be included in the spring break. This would allow districts time to administer tests the week of April 25.

Revised LEP program exit criteria approved by State Board of Education

At its July 13 meeting, the State Board of Education voted to amend Rule 3301-13-11 of the Ohio Administrative Code to establish the following conditions for exiting a student from LEP status:

- The student is in grade 3-12 and has attained a composite score of five on the OTELA; **or**
- The student is in grade 3-12 and has attained a composite score of four on the OTELA, has subsequently completed a one-year trial period of mainstream instruction and attained a second composite score of four or above on the OTELA during the trial period of mainstream instruction; **or**

(Pertains only to grade 2 and 3 students)

- The student in grade 2 attained a composite score of four or five on the OTELA and has attained a composite score of four or five on the OTELA during the completion of a trial period of mainstream instruction in grade 3.

Special Conditions:

- Students in kindergarten through grade two shall not be exited from the LEP program.
- Transition Year – LEP students who obtained a composite score of four or five on the OTELA in 2008-2009 will be exited from the program if they obtained a composite score of four or five on the OTELA in 2009-2010.

If a student meets the exit criteria, all of the following steps are taken:

- Student is exited from the program of supplementary LEP services (such as English as a second language instruction or bilingual education).
- Student's EMIS record is updated to show the year and month the student is reclassified as no longer LEP in the Limited English Proficient Reclassification Data Element. (For students who met the exit criteria with the spring 2010 OTELA administration, the exit date is June 2010.) Also, change the LEP status to "N" (no longer LEP).
- Student participates in statewide assessment with **no** accommodations.

ODE has placed additional information regarding revisions to [Ohio's Title III Accountability Plan](#), which also is accessible at education.ohio.gov, keyword search: *Ohio's Revised Title III Accountability Plan*. For further information about the revised criteria, contact the Lau Resource Center at lau@ode.state.oh.us or (614) 466-4109.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ASCD Fall Conference to be held on Oct. 19

The Ohio Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (Ohio ASCD) will sponsor a conference Oct. 19 in Columbus titled *Promising Practices in Learning and Leading*. The daylong agenda also will feature more than a dozen breakout sessions on topics including capstone/senior projects, 21st century learning, inquiry, creativity, differentiated instruction and pioneering approaches to credit flexibility. ODE Deputy Superintendent Marilyn Troyer will deliver a morning keynote address about the timeline and upcoming activities related to Ohio's Race to the Top funding. Stan Heffner, associate superintendent of ODE's Center for Curriculum and Assessment, will provide updates about education reform during his luncheon keynote presentation and will provide a follow-up Q&A about standards revisions, forthcoming new state assessments and other topics. For more information, visit the [conference website](#). Register [here](#) or contact Mike Ross at (937) 996-4211 or ohioascd@embarqmail.com.

2011/2012 National Security Language Initiative for student scholarships and sub-grant opportunities now accepting applications

The U.S. Department of State, through the National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y), provides merit-based scholarships for eligible high school students to learn less commonly taught

languages in summer, semester and academic year international immersion programs. NSLI-Y encourages beginning, intermediate and advanced language learners with a passion for learning languages, communicating across cultures and living abroad to apply. Please spread the word among your high school students that merit-based scholarships are available to study Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Korean, Persian, Russian and Turkish. You never know who might be interested in pursuing a critical language, and we know that learning a third language is easier after study of a second. Basic eligibility requirements are:

- Applicants must be U.S. citizens currently enrolled in high school and be between the ages of 15 and 18 at the start of the program.
- A minimum GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) is required.

The U.S. Department of State and American Councils seek broad diversity, including – but not limited to – ethnicity, race, gender, religion, geographic location and disabilities. To apply, interested students should visit the [NSLI website](#). The deadline to apply is **Nov. 11**.

The American Councils and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State also have announced the 2011/2012 competition for sub-awards for the National Security Language Initiative for Youth. Proposals are invited for short-term (six to eight week) intensive overseas language programs for American high school students to study Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Korean, Persian, Russian or Turkish. Programs will take place between May 2011 and May 2012.

The proposal deadline for the sub-awards competition is **Nov. 12**. Program guidelines and instructions are available now for download. View the Request for Proposal (RFP) at this [link](#). If you have questions after reading the RFP, please contact the American Councils at (866) 790-2086.

Guidance for initiating Chinese language programs

Implementing high-quality K-12 Chinese language and culture programs is challenging. Financial resources are limited and securing the services of highly qualified teachers is a challenge. In December, ODE will hold a webinar for district decision-makers who are seeking ways to initiate Chinese programs during the 2011-2012 school year. The Webinar will focus largely on the Chinese Guest Teacher Program, an initiative of the College Board in conjunction with the National Council of State Supervisors for Languages (NCSSFL) and the Office of Chinese Language Council International (HANBAN) in mainland China. An exact date and time for this Web-based event will be announced in the November edition of the *Ides of ODE*. Stay tuned!

International Education Week website launched

International Education Week (IEW) will be celebrated across the United States from **Nov. 15 to 19**. The [International Education Week 2010 website](#) includes promotional materials, an interactive quiz and opportunities to post and view planned events around the world.

Free Winter 2011 seminar on China, Japan and Korea to be taught at OSU in Columbus

The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) is an 11-week seminar that provides grade 6-12 teachers with the knowledge, resources and expert guidance needed to incorporate or enhance curriculum about East Asia in their classrooms. In addition to gaining knowledge about China, Japan and Korea, upon completion of program requirements, participants receive \$500 personal stipends for their time and completed lesson plans; \$200 worth of seminar texts and resources to add to their personal libraries; \$300 resource grants to purchase Asia-related textbooks, films and other supplies for their schools; the option to purchase graduate credit; and continuing education unit certificates.

The seminar will be held at The Ohio State University, 145 Hagerty Hall, 1775 College Road, Columbus, from 6 to 9 p.m. on the following Thursdays: Jan. 13, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; March 10, 17, 24; and April 7. Given the interdisciplinary nature of this seminar, applications from teams made up of no more than four teachers from a single school are encouraged. Individual teacher applications also are accepted. Educators may [apply online](#) (scroll down the page) and find further information on this NCTA website. Applications received by **Nov. 30** will receive priority.

INFOhio Tools for 21st Century Schools

INFOhio provides free, 24/7 electronic resources that students, teachers and parents can use to enhance their teaching and learning. Do all your schools have the new password for this school year? INFOhio's new home-access usernames and passwords are available from your school library media specialist or your regional Information Technology Center provider. To obtain a new password online, click [here](#).

Anyone in the Ohio school community interested in learning how to use INFOhio resources should visit the [How to Use INFOhio Electronic Resources Collection](#). This page sorts the INFOhio resources by grade level, subject or resource type. In addition, INFOhio helps teachers understand many of the Web 2.0 skills and concepts that support the Partnership for 21st Century Skills through its *21st Century Learning Commons*. Through this website, Ohio's teaching staff can create collaborative learning groups while learning more about various INFOhio resources and Web 2.0 tools. Join the [Learning Commons](#) by clicking on the *Get Started* image and watching the introductory Flash tutorial.

INFOhio's *Learn With INFOhio!* series of free 45-minute webinars is for teachers, librarians, curriculum coordinators, guidance counselors and technology coordinators. No registration is required, but a computer with Internet access, working speakers or audio headphones is necessary for participation. For a complete schedule, click [here](#).

Thought of the month

"Education is knowing where to go to find out what you need to know; and its knowing how to use the information you get." – William Feather

Denny Thompson, Director
Office of Curriculum and Instruction
denny.thompson@ode.state.oh.us

Jim Wright, Director
Office of Assessment
james.wright@ode.state.oh.us

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