SUBJECT: STUDENT PROGRESS

The Board of Education recognizes the need for classroom teachers to accurately and efficiently assess student progress. To accomplish that goal the Board directs administration (in conjunction with the teaching staff) to develop a comprehensive regulation that governs the assessment of student progress. Such an assessment program should include the traditional methods of testing, papers, homework, as well as the less traditional methods of teacher narrative and student portfolio assessment.

Because testing comprises such a large part of student assessment, administration is directed to ensure that teacher-developed and curriculum-embedded tests as well as norm and criterion referenced tests are used consistent with current educational research. To that end, the Board expects that teachers and administrators will have the proper knowledge of fundamental measurement concepts. Moreover, teacher-made tests, as well as curriculum-embedded tests should:

1. require students to demonstrate not only the retention of basic skills such as facts, dates, events, and computations, but the application, analysis and comprehension of such skills;
2.   require a broad range of student responses such as essays, comparisons, verbal responses, categorizations, fill-ins, and not just multiple choice responses;
3. be graded and returned within a reasonable period of time;
4. be supported, when appropriate, by technology to ease the burden of scoring on the teacher without encouraging multiple choice items at the expense of more complete assessment responses; and
5.   always be used for instructional purposes as well as assessment purposes.

Therefore:

a.   students should be given their answer sheets as well as the test questions for the purpose of reviewing the assessment with their teacher;

b.   students should be allowed to keep their question and answer sheets for individual classroom tests;

c.   parents, upon request, should have access to the test questions when meeting with a teacher or administrator; and

d.   copies of all such tests should be on file.

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