LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT TESTING

In addition to the state-administered assessment instruments, the District may adopt and administer criterion-referenced or norm-referenced assessment instruments, or both, at any grade level. A locally adopted norm-referenced assessment instrument must be economical, nationally recognized, and state-approved.

For purposes of this provision, “assessment instrument” means a District-commissioned achievement test, either nationally normed or criterion-referenced, that is group administered and reported publicly (such as to the Board) in the aggregate.

A company or organization scoring an assessment instrument shall send test results to the District for verification. The District shall have 90 days to verify the accuracy of test data and report the results to the Board.

The District shall follow procedures for test security and confidentiality set forth in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 101, Subchapter C. [See EKB]

Education Code 39.026, 39.032; 19 TAC 101.101

In any subject area for which a state assessment is administered, the District may not administer locally required assessments designed to prepare students for state assessments to any student on more than ten percent of the instructional days in any school year. A campus-level planning and decision-making committee may limit the administration of locally required assessments to ten percent or a lower percentage of the instructional days in any school year. This prohibition does not apply to the administration of college preparation assessments, advanced placement tests, international baccalaureate examinations, or state assessments. *Education Code 39.0262*

COLLEGE PREPARATION ASSESSMENTS

The following provisions apply only if the legislature appropriates funds for these purposes.

Each school year, and at state cost, the District shall administer an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument:

1. To students in the spring of the eighth grade, for the purpose of diagnosing the academic strengths and deficiencies of students before entrance into high school; and

2. To students in the tenth grade, for the purpose of measuring a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace.

High school students, in the spring of the eleventh grade or during the twelfth grade, may select and take once, at state cost, one of the valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instruments used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions processes. A high school student is not prohibited from taking a test more than once, at the student's own expense.

TEA shall:

1. Select and approve vendors of the specific assessment instruments administered under this section; and

2. Pay all fees associated with the administration of the assessment instrument, and the Commissioner shall reduce the total amount of state funds allocated to the District from any source in the same manner described for a reduction in allotments under Education Code 42.253.

Education Code 39.0261

HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS

The following provisions apply to a home-schooled student entitled under Education Code 25.001 to attend school in the District.

The District shall permit a home-schooled student to participate in an administration of the PSAT/NMSQT or a college advanced placement test offered by the District.

"Home-schooled student" means a student who predominantly receives instruction in a general elementary or secondary education program that is provided by the parent, or a person standing in parental authority, in or through the child's home.

FEES

The District shall require a home-schooled student to pay the same fee to participate in such a test that a student enrolled in the District is required to pay.

NOTICE

The District shall post on an Internet Web site maintained by the District the date the PSAT/NMSQT will be administered and the date any college advanced placement tests will be administered. The notice must state that the PSAT/NMSQT or the advanced placement test is available for home-schooled students eligible to attend school in the District and describe the procedures for a home-schooled student to register for the test.

A district that does not maintain an Internet Web site must publish the notice in a newspaper in the District. If a newspaper is not published in the District, the District shall provide for the publication of notice in at least one newspaper in the county in which the District's central administrative office is located.

The required notice must be posted or published at the same time and with the same frequency with which the information is provided to a student who attends a District school.

Education Code 29.916