



A Recognized School District

February 2012

Dear Parents and Students,

Beginning in spring 2012, the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR™) will replace the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS). First time 9th graders and middle school students taking high school courses will begin taking the 12 STAAR end-of-course (EOC) assessments for which they are enrolled in:

- Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II
- Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- English I, English II, English III,
- World geography, World history, and U.S. history

*Repeat 9th graders, and students in grades 10-12, will continue their graduation plans under the TAKS system.

By law, EOC assessments must count as 15% of the final grade.

- Full **credit** calculations will be based on the average of semester I and semester II (85%) and the EOC proficiency level (15%).
- **Grade point average and class rank** calculations will be based on semester I and semester II averages. Both semesters will include a final exam worth 20% of the semester average.

By law, EOC assessments will be calculated into a **cumulative score** for each content area. The cumulative score requirement will be an addition to the current graduation requirements.

By law, students who score Level I (Unsatisfactory Academic Performance) on an EOC will be provided **accelerated instruction** by the campus. Students will have the opportunity to retake an EOC in the fall, spring, and summer of each year. Since the first assessments will be given spring of 2012, the first retest will be given the summer of 2012. *Because all 12 assessments may be necessary for graduation, it is important to stay on track each year.*

To discuss this information further, please join us at one of the following parent meetings in the Alief ISD Administration Building (4250 Cook Rd., north entrance).

- February 27, 2012 - 5:00 p.m.
- February 28, 2012 - 6:30 p.m.
- February 29, 2012 - 8:00 a.m.

We highly encourage your attendance to assist with the success your child.

Thank you,
Natalie Martinez
Director of Accountability
Alief ISD

