

ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

ASD MEMORANDUM #58 (98-99)

September 28, 1998

TO: SCHOOL BOARD  
FROM: OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE: 1998-99

PERTINENT FACTS:

A number of Districtwide testing and large scale survey activities are planned for 1998-99. The information included in the attachment was provided to principals to help in the development of school calendars. Some dates are subject to change as we receive more information from the State of Alaska on the new Alaska High School Qualifying Examination and other state assessment activities. The State Department of Education has discontinued the requirement for the statewide writing assessment and for the testing of 11th graders with the California Achievement Examination (CAT). The recommendation from the Instructional Division is to continue the grades 3 through 11 CAT testing in Anchorage, to continue the 5th and 7th grade writing assessment locally, and to shift the high school writing assessment to 9th grade.

The schedule for the 1998-99 school year includes:

- Certificated Staff Surveys December 1998
- Anchorage Writing Assessment January 1999
- Standardized Testing March-April 1999
- High School Qualifying Exam March 1999
- CRT Tests/Performance Assessments April and May 1999
- Report Card Satisfaction Surveys April 1999
- Independent Reader Assessment May 1999

The CAT testing window is March 23 to April 1. Testing is recommended for Tuesday through Friday, March 23 to March 26 with make-ups the following week. This testing is scheduled the last two weeks of the quarter. Teachers and principals have been encouraged to schedule their end-of-nine-weeks activities and the CAT testing as soon as possible in order to minimize conflicting schedules. Completed student CAT tests and State of Alaska building and student surveys must be returned to Assessment and Evaluation by Monday, April 5, 1999 for processing.

**Curriculum Referenced Tests,  
Performance Assessments, Writing Assessments,  
High School Qualifying Examination  
Testing Schedule  
1998-99**

<b>Test</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Curriculum Referenced Testing (CRT)	May 3 through May 14, 1999 Selected samples Grade 8 students in Science, and Grade 8 students in Social Studies.
Performance Assessment (PA)	April 5 through May 21, 1999 Selected samples of grade 4
Writing Assessment (AWA)	January 25 through January 29, 1999 All grade 5, 7, and 9 students
Writing Assessment Scoring	March 1999 Teachers read and grade student essays.
Pre-Algebra Qualifying Exam	April 19 through April 23, 1999 All grade 6 students
High School Qualifying Exam	Dates to be determined. Pilot testing must be commenced this Spring to meet DOE timelines. (Tentative March 2 through 4, 1999)

Other tests are commonly scheduled by the building staff or organized through outside scoring services. These include the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, ACT, AP, ASVAB and other specialized examinations, which are not required or funded as part of the State or District testing programs. Some schools may also elect to participate in the norming of new national assessments.

**Large Scale Surveys  
1998-99 Schedule**

<b>Survey</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Certificated Staff Input <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for Written Comments</li> <li>• Student, Parent, and Staff Surveys</li> </ul>	November 4 through December 11, 1998  December 7 through December 11, 1998
School Report Card Satisfaction Surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary     Staff, Student, Student</li> <li>• Middle School     Staff, Student, Student</li> <li>• High School     Staff, Student, Student</li> </ul>	April 7 through April 9, 1999  April 14 through April 16, 1999  April 14 through April 16, 1999

Additional tests and/or surveys may be required to fulfill state regulations and assist in the development of new state assessments. The State Department of Education is developing a kindergarten readiness portfolio, three reading, math, and writing assessments, and the high school qualifying examination. All will require some pilot testing prior to implementation.

BC/RF/sh

Attachment

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Approved by: Carol Comeau, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction

**Major Assessment Activities  
1998 – 1999 School Year**

**Input into Certificated Staff Evaluations**  
**(All parents, all teachers, students 3-12)**

Wednesday - December 2, 1998	Mailing to Parents
Wednesday - December 9, 1998	Student Surveys Staff Surveys
First Quarter Report Card Pick-up November Newsletters	Opportunity for General Comments on Certificated Staff

**Alaska Statewide Student Assessment Program**

**Anchorage State Writing Assessment (All students, grades 5, 7, 9)**

Week of January 25, 1999  
Papers returned to Assessment and Evaluation on February 1, 1999  
Teachers participate in scoring sessions during March 1999\*

**Alaska High School Qualifying Examination (All students, grade 10)**

March 2, 3, 4 (3-4 hour sessions each day)\*  
Papers returned to Assessment and Evaluation Monday-March 8, 1999

**California Achievement Tests (All students grades 3 through 11)**

Tuesday through Friday – March 23 to March 26, 1999  
Make-up Testing  
Monday through Thursday – March 29 through April 1, 1999  
Papers returned to Assessment and Evaluation Monday – April 5, 1999  
Results returned to schools and parents by Friday, May 14, 1999

**Major Assessment Activities  
1998-99 School Year**

**School Report Card Surveys (All parents, staff members, students 3 – 12)**

Additional questions to Assessment and Evaluation - March 22, 1999

Schools distribute surveys

Elementary	April 7-9, 1999
Middle School	April 14-16, 1999
High School	April 14-15, 1999

Papers returned to A&E	Elementary	Wednesday – April 14, 1999
	Secondary	Wednesday – April 21, 1999

**Independent Reader Assessment (All Grade 3 Students)**

Monday through Friday – May 3 through May 7, 1999

Papers returned to A&E Monday – May 10, 1999

**Grade 6 Pre-Algebra Qualification Assessment (All grade 6 students)**

April 19 through April 23, 1999

Papers returned to A&E Monday – April 26, 1999

**Integrated Language Arts & Social Studies Assessment (Selected Grade 4 Classes)**

April 3, 1999 through May 21, 1999

Papers returned to A&E Monday – May 24, 1999

**Grade 8 Social Studies Assessment (Selected Grade 8 Classrooms)**

May 3 through May 14, 1999

Papers returned to A&E Monday – May 24, 1999

**Grade 8 Science Assessment (Selected Grade 8 Classrooms)**

May 3 through May 14, 1999

Papers returned to A&E Monday – May 24, 1999