December 21, 2010

Subject: District Participation in the Teacher Portal of the Texas Assessment Management System

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

Please DO NOT reply to this e-mail.

The purpose of this e-mail is to notify districts of the option to apply for a waiver of participation in the teacher portal of the Texas Assessment Management System. In 2009, the 81st Texas Legislature enacted legislation to give greater access to student assessment data for students, parents, educators, and the general public. The assessment data portal will be fully operational in October 2011 and will comply with the requirements of Texas Education Code (TEC), sec. 32.258, as enacted by House Bill 3, 81st Legislature.

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) recognizes that districts may already have an operational data portal that meets the requirements of the statute with regard to teacher access to student data. Districts may apply to TEA for a waiver of participation in the teacher data portal. A waiver will be granted if a district can provide assurance that the local teacher data portal meets the requirements of TEC, sec. 32.258. Specifically, the local data portal must meet the following requirements.

The local data portal must be accessible to all teachers in the district.
The local data portal must provide access to teachers to view their own students' assessment data.
Student data must be available from the 2007–2008 school year forward, and include data indicating progress in student achievement.
Student data must be available on or before the first instructional day of the year following the year in which the data are collected.
The local data portal must permit comparisons of student performance at the classroom campus, district, and state levels.

The expedited waiver process is scheduled to be available in early January. Districts will be notified when the waiver form is accessible on TEA's website.

If you have any questions about this information, please call the TEA Student Assessment Division. If you have questions about the waiver process, please call the State Waiver Unit.

<u>Assessment Contact Information</u>

Texas Education Agency

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