## TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

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

In 2009, the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature enacted legislation to provide greater access to student assessment data for students, parents, educators, and the general public. The assessment data portal of the Texas Assessment Management System will be fully operational in October 2011 and will comply with the requirements of Texas Education Code (TEC), §32.258, as enacted by House Bill 3, 81<sup>st</sup> Legislature. Districts that are interested in fulfilling the requirement of TEC, §32.258 to provide teacher access to student assessment data through a local student data system must apply for an expedited waiver from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The local data portal must meet the following requirements.

- The local data portal must be accessible to all teachers in the core subject areas (reading/English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) and must allow teachers to view their own students' assessment data. It will be a local decision whether to extend access to teachers outside of the four core subjects; however, districts must consider whether there exists a sound educational reason, allowable under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), for non-core teachers to have access to student-level 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 were collected.
- The local data portal must permit comparisons of student performance at the classroom, campus, district, and state levels. Though it will not be necessary for local data portals to contain statewide data for comparisons of student performance, local portals must include a link to the TEA's website where statewide reports are posted (<a href="http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/results/">http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/results/</a>).
- As a condition to granting a waiver for teacher access to the state data portal, local systems must have all of the above data available to teachers by October 1, 2011.

It should be noted that districts that receive a waiver from the requirement to provide teachers with access to the state data portal are still required to provide the teacher-student linking information in their summer PEIMS submissions. There is no waiver from the PEIMS submission requirement.

The deadline for submitting an expedited waiver request to fulfill the requirements of TEC, §32.258 through a local student data portal is August 1, 2011. The application for expedited and general state waivers is available online at <a href="http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6637&menu\_id2=788">http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6637&menu\_id2=788</a>.

If you have questions or need further clarification about this information, please contact the Student Assessment Division or the State Waiver Unit at (512) 463-9630 or at Waivers@tea.state.tx.us.

## **Assessment Contact Information**

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