

New End of Level State Assessments

In 2014, the Utah State Office of Education implemented the Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence (SAGE) accountability assessments for all schools across the state of Utah. As you know, students have participated in SAGE assessments every spring in grades 3-12. Last year the Utah Legislature made changes in how school grading and accountability will be measured. Legislative bill S.B. 220, titled Student Assessment and School Accountability Amendments, passes the Legislature, which will lead to a number of changes in student assessments beginning in the Spring of 2019. Essentially, the bill transitions us from the administration of the SAGE assessment in grades 9-10 to the new ACT Aspire in the spring of the 2019 school year. The SAGE assessment has been given the new term of RISE (Readiness Improvement Success Empowerment) and has been implemented for all grades 3- 8, while the 9-10 grades will be taking the ACT Aspire Plus (which is a pre-test for the ACT and State Accountability Assessment), and 11th grade will take the ACT assessment. Grades 9-11 will not participate in the RISE assessment this spring. With these changes in testing, the State Board will assign letter grades for schools in the fall of 2019. SB 220 allows for a committee to be created in order to make recommendations to the State Board on the new school grading system (letter grades). If you have questions regarding the SAGE to RISE or ACT transitions, please contact me at the district office. I would be happy to visit with you.

Ben Dalton
Superintendent
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