

Section: **INSTRUCTION**

Policy Title: **Comprehensive Student Assessment System**

Assessment is any process or procedure that measures student progress, knowledge or performance. Assessment should be meaningful to students, staff, parents, and the community and should be used to promote student learning. Therefore, the district will use a variety of assessment tools to measure and communicate student progress, knowledge, and performance in an understandable, useful manner. The Kelso School District has an obligation to establish, utilize, and revise its assessment plan on a regular basis.

Quality Standards

All assessments used in Kelso School District should meet five standards of quality. They will:

1. reflect a clear and specific learning
2. serve a clearly articulated purpose
3. rely on a proper assessment methodology
4. sample the targeted learning appropriately
5. minimize extraneous factors that can cause the mis-measurement of achievement

All certified staff are expected to understand quality standards and know how to apply them in their own assessment, evaluation and communication contexts.

Classroom Assessment

Classroom assessment is an ongoing educational practice designed to improve instruction. A variety of assessments are essential. Classroom assessments will be used for four purposes:

1. to determine individual student progress and achievement
2. to diagnose individual's academic needs
3. to evaluate progress of a group of learners
4. to inform parents/guardians of individual student progress

All teachers shall take responsibility for articulating how the knowledge, thinking, performance, and concepts and skills they teach and assess contribute to student progress toward the Kelso standards and Washington State essential learnings. Certified staff are expected to understand and use various assessment formats.

The superintendent is responsible to assure that the standards of assessment quality are implemented. Opportunities and resources needed to perform quality assessments will be provided. District staff shall acquire the competence necessary to evaluate and report student achievement. The District will implement hiring practices and training opportunities and staff evaluation procedures that support quality assessment practices.

Cross References: Board Policy 2090 Program Evaluation
Board Policy 2421 Promotion/Retention

Adopted: November 13, 1996
Revised: September 25, 2006
Revised: March 10, 2008