

Ada City Schools

Academic Programs and Student Assessment Ada City School District

In the next few weeks, you may receive information from state and local agencies or from the media about the Oklahoma School Testing Program (OSTP). This information may include test score results from the 2016-2017 school year. In order to understand this information, it is important that you recognize the premise on which the Ada City School District develops and implements all programming.

The mission of the Ada City School District is to prepare all students to become engaged, high-performing citizens with the skills necessary to succeed in a global society. To that end, the District has worked diligently to develop and implement academic and extra-curricular programs which will ensure that your child is equipped for post-secondary and career opportunities.

In addition to strong course work in each academic subject area, the District has worked to vertically align accelerated course work and now offers students eight Advanced Placement courses. These programs work in conjunction with college concurrent enrollment opportunities.

Strong programming in the arts continues to ensure student excellence in band, dance, and performing arts programs. Course offerings in multi-media, mock trial, marketing, computer coding, forensics, leadership, hospitality, and many others, help to ensure that students have every opportunity to expand their interests and to find and develop strong career pathways.

On the following pages you will see a notice titled, *“What Families Need to Know.”* This material is provided by the Oklahoma State Department of Education and provides parents and students with information on how to interpret the 2017 Oklahoma School Testing Results.

Rest assured that the Ada City School District will use this information to continue to develop and implement programs that align to its mission and that ensure that our graduates are well-prepared for the high-skill jobs and innovative careers of the future.



- 1** In 2016, Oklahoma began teaching more comprehensive academic standards, which required new, more complex Oklahoma School Testing Program (OSTP) assessments to measure them. The new assessments were given to students in spring 2017, and test results will be released in late fall 2017.
- 2** Oklahoma assessment scores now track for **college and career readiness** and align with national benchmarks like the SAT, ACT and the National Assessment of Educational Progress.
- 3** Spring 2017 assessments required setting new performance levels for English language arts and math in grades 3-8 and 10 and for science in grades 5, 8 and 10. Performance levels, or “cut scores,” are presented in categories: *Advanced, Proficient, *Basic* and ***Below Basic*.
- 4** In year 1 – **Nov. 2017** – we will see a significant drop in the number of students reported as Proficient or Advanced. That decrease does **not** mean students are less skilled than last year or that a school is less effective. It means Oklahoma’s scores have been recalibrated to align with the knowledge and skills students need to be ready for college and career.
- 5** This school year represents a new beginning and **A TOTAL RESET**; no comparison is possible with student or school performance in past years. It will become the baseline for student and school performance as we continue efforts to position **every** Oklahoma student on the leading edge for success.

*Limited Knowledge
**Unsatisfactory



O K L A H O M A

EDGE

Giving Oklahoma Students a Competitive Edge

Oklahoma educators and leaders have strengthened academic standards so students can be prepared for college and career immediately after high school. Meeting these goals will enable students to:

1. Enter college without needing to pay for remedial courses that don't earn credit. Currently, Oklahoma families pay \$22 million a year out of pocket for remedial coursework after high school graduation.
2. Be well-prepared for high-skill jobs and innovative careers of the future.
3. Become great problem-solvers, strategic thinkers and leaders of tomorrow.