

Higher Standards, Quality Instruction, & Better Tests

Raising the Bar for all Oregon students

- **Students and teachers are rising to the challenge of higher standards and their hard work is paying off.** Preliminary results show that more students met Oregon's college- and career-ready standard on new state tests than originally projected.
- **The online tests ask students to engage in new ways through interactive questions, multi-step problems, and student writing.** These types of tests take longer than purely multiple choice tests, but they also provide more accurate information on student learning and are designed to be more engaging than previous state tests.
- **Students who receive a 3 or 4 on the test (on a 4-point scale) are considered on track to graduate high school college and career-ready.** Scores in English and math will be more detailed and able to highlight student's strengths and areas for improvement.
- **Test results will provide important feedback to students, parents, and educators.** While they are only one measure of students' academic success, this information allows educators to address learning gaps early and better prepare students for success.
- **This year represents a new baseline for our state, and we expect the percent meeting to increase in the coming years.** In the past, when Oregon raised expectations, there was an initial drop in scores followed by an increase as students and teachers rose to the challenge of higher standards.
- **The transition to higher standards and new tests will require patience and persistence.** Our educators will continue to focus on implementation of the standards and high-quality instruction.
- **Working to close the achievement gap is a top priority for Oregon.** The standards and tests promote equity by ensuring all students, especially historically underserved students, are offered access to high-level content. No student will be held back a grade or kept from graduating based on the results of the tests.