



CTE and Special Education Discussion

October 2015

Meg Harvey asked Jan Breton, the director of Special Education, the question about assessment equity and special populations. The answer came back to: if the assessment would be required to pass the course. The answer to this question is no. You can still pass the CTE course without taking the assessment. The course completion is determined by the standards met and the instructors' assessment. The statewide assessment is similar to the SAT or the SBAC. It is expected that all students will take the assessment but it is not mandatory.

Meg asked about setting a cut score for passing the class before we opt to have the student take the test. Jan indicated that as long as we have the rule for all students then that rule would be equitable to all. Some schools may decide to test all students regardless and that is fine too, but they can set a minimum program completion score to determine who would be eligible to take the statewide assessment.

When Meg asked about if a school decided to have a minimum score rule for taking the assessment and the instructor wanted an "opt in" option, it was said that was a questionable practice. It could be inequitable in cases. A school could also decide to offer a different, possibly cheaper, assessment to all students that scored under the minimum program score. This would also be allowable as long as it was offered to all students under the minimum score, regardless of any identification.