



STATE OF MAINE
 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 23 STATE HOUSE STATION
 AUGUSTA, MAINE
 04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
 GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON
 COMMISSIONER

July 1, 2008

MEMORANDUM OF RECORD

RE: Adoption of the 2008 Maine Personalized Alternate Assessment Portfolio Cut Scores

On June 26-27, 2008, the Department through its assessment contractor, Measured Progress, conducted a standards validation process to establish 2008 achievement level cut scores for Maine’s alternate assessment, the Personalized Alternate Assessment Portfolio (PAAP).

On July 1, Department alternate assessment personnel reviewed the results from the validation process with me and provided recommendations for appropriate cut scores based on that data.

I have finalized and approved the cut scores in the tables below for use in determining four levels of student achievement on the Personalized Alternate Assessment Portfolio – Attempting Work Based on the Standards (A), Emerging Towards the Standards (EM), Meeting the Standards (M), and Exceeding the Standards (Ex).

This is to record that cut score values (see below) have been officially adopted by the Department for use in reporting 2008 student performance on Maine’s Personalized Alternate Assessment Portfolio across the achievement continuum.

2008 PAAP Reading Adopted Cut Scores					
Data	Grade 3-4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grades 7-8	High School
Raw Score	A/Em = 4	A/Em = 7	A/Em = 10	A/Em = 14	A/Em = 15
Cut Point ¹	Em/M = 14	Em/M = 15	Em/M = 22	Em/M = 24	Em/M = 27
	M/Ex = 19	M/Ex = 23	M/Ex = 32	M/Ex = 40	M/Ex = 51

2008 PAAP Mathematics Adopted Cut Scores					
Data	Grade 3-4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grades 7-8	High School
Raw Score	A/Em = 5	A/Em = 10	A/Em = 10	A/Em = 19	A/Em = 20
Cut Point ¹	Em/M = 14	Em/M = 19	Em/M = 24	Em/M = 40	Em/M = 48
	M/Ex = 27	M/Ex = 31	M/Ex = 42	M/Ex = 52	M/Ex = 63

¹ The numbers in each column show the lowest score a student must attain in order to be classified in the higher achievement level. For example, a third grade student who receives a raw score of 14 in reading will score in the Meeting the Standards category.

Measured Progress is now in the process of finalizing the data in order to report the alternate assessment results. The Personalized Alternate Assessment reports, including state, school, and individual student reports for parents and students, will reflect the approved achievement levels.

Thank you,

Susan A. Gendron
 Commissioner of Education