

**ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 17**  
Office of School Site Support

**SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS**

**Date:** August 30, 2005

**To:** Principals at Elementary, Middle, Junior High, and Atypical Schools;  
Division and Department Heads

**Subject:** DEGREES OF READING POWER (DRP) TESTING

**Department and/or  
Persons Concerned:** Principals, Vice Principals, and Testing Coordinators

**Due Dates:** Testing materials to be returned by: Fall testing, October 12 (Traditional and Year-Round schools); Spring testing, April 21 (Traditional schools) or May 19 (Year-Round schools)

**Reference:** Site Operations Circular No. 1044, "**REVISED** Testing Calendar Information for 2005-06 School Year," (June 30, 2005)

**Action Requested:** The Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) must be administered to students in Grades 4-8 during the designated testing windows. Return materials to the District Assessment Department by the due date.

**Brief Explanation**

In 2005-06, the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) will be administered twice, once in the fall and again in the spring, with the "pre-assessment" providing results to inform teacher instructional decisions and the "post-assessment" providing data on student progress during the year. The DRP will provide information about students' reading comprehension levels and will be used to determine student progress, target individual students who are in need of additional reading support, and provide information on the effectiveness of the district support and intervention programs for students in Grades 4-8.

The DRP is a group-administered test that is untimed but generally requires a full class period to administer. It consists of reading passages arranged in order of difficulty from the easiest to the most difficult passage. As with other reading tests (i.e., the Developmental Reading Assessment and the Analytical Reading Inventory), teachers are to stop testing when students reach their frustration level. Because the passages gradually become more difficult, students will generally reach their frustration level after about 60-75 minutes if they have not already finished the test. When students have reached their frustration level, the test should be stopped whether or not the students have finished.

Administrators should note that the DRP must be administered in a single testing session. It is important to take this into account when scheduling this test. The fall administration of the DRP is available to district schools only. The district is unable to support the fall administration of this assessment at charter schools at this time.

The following students must be tested on the DRP during the designated testing windows:

Grades 4-8 All students, including English Learners and Special Education students enrolled in Special Day Classes, Non-Severe

Pre-printed scan sheets identifying the students who should be tested and other test materials will be sent to schools as described under “Materials for Testing.”

### Dates for Testing

	<u>Fall Testing Window</u>	<u>Testing Materials Due</u>
Traditional calendar schools	October 6-12	October 12
Year-Round calendar schools	October 6-12	October 12
	<u>Spring Testing Window</u>	<u>Testing Materials Due</u>
Traditional calendar schools	April 17-21	April 21
Year-Round calendar schools	May 15-19	May 19

### Materials for Testing

Test booklets and pre-printed scan sheets will be delivered to schools no later than one week before the testing window begins. Schools are responsible for storing the booklets in a secured location both before and after the test is administered.

### Testing of Special Education and 504 Plan Students with Accommodations

Special Education and 504 Plan students may be provided the same accommodations or modifications for the DRP as for any standardized, norm-referenced test. (Extra time is not considered an accommodation with this assessment since it is an untimed test.) These accommodations or modifications must be indicated in the student’s IEP or 504 Plan. Students who qualify for the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) are exempt from the DRP. Documentation of eligibility for alternate assessment is made in the student’s IEP in the special factors section. Item 5—participation in CA State/District-wide assessments—should be marked to “to participate in alternate assessment” and the alternate assessment survey should be completed in the online IEP in order to be exempt. (Special factors #5 is the data collection point in the IEP for all Special Education students’ status in assessments, including accommodations and modifications as well as alternate assessments.) Out-of-level testing on the DRP is not an option for any district student. For further information, please contact Mary Sue Glynn for Special Education concerns at (619) 725-5650 or Sally Tucker for 504 Plan questions at (858) 627-7583.

### Return of Test Materials

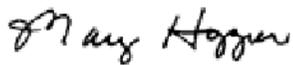
Separate test booklets from the answer sheets. Separate unused answer sheets from the completed sheets. Also separate the answer sheets of any students who were tested with accommodations or modifications based on their IEP. Indicate on a post-it note or on the paper band used to separate the scan sheets which students received accommodations or modifications. Completed answer sheets, unused answer sheets, test booklets, and the principal’s certification form must be hand-delivered (i.e., not sent through the school mail) to the District Assessment Department, Eugene Brucker Education Center, Annex 11 no later than 4 p.m. on the assigned due date. Scan sheets turned in after the

deadline will be scored separately and the data from these tests will not be included in initial reports sent to the schools.

Please direct questions to the District Assessment Department at (619) 725-7172.

Eileen Poole, Program Manager  
District Assessment Department

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Hopper".

Mary Hopper  
Chief Administrative Officer

EP

Distribution: Lists A, D, and E