



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

DAVID C. HESPE
Commissioner

January 12, 2016

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Lead Persons

FROM: Jeffrey B. Hauger, Ed.D., Director
Office of Assessments
Division of Data, Research, Evaluation and Reporting

SUBJECT: Update of English Language Arts/Literacy Informational Guide for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Portfolio Appeals Process

The Department of Education has posted an updated Informational Guide for the English Language Arts/Literacy PARCC portfolio appeals process on the department's website at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/district/>. The Informational Guide includes a description of the evidence statement tables, PARCC writing rubrics, passing score requirements, passage guidelines, and links for practice tests and the newly released items. Districts should use PARCC practice and released items as examples of the kinds of questions that must be included, but **may not** use the actual items for their appeals.

A sample Constructed Response Task (CRT) for Grade 11 is attached to the updated Informational Guide for the English Language Arts/Literacy PARCC portfolio appeals process. The CRT includes an informational text, reading comprehension items, and a writing task. Items on the sample CRT highlight the use of text dependent questions and are aligned to the evidence statements for reading and writing. The evidence statements describe the knowledge and skills that an assessment item or a task elicits from students. These are aligned directly to the Common Core State Standards and are attached to the reading, writing and vocabulary claims presented by PARCC.

The updated Informational Guide for the English Language Arts/Literacy PARCC portfolio appeals process also includes a cover sheet. The cover sheet asks educators to record passage information, evidence statements, and score information for each student. A reading **and** writing cover sheet must be submitted for each student for an English Language Arts/Literacy portfolio appeal.

The updated informational guide will help educators as they develop CRTs in the subject area of English Language Arts/Literacy. If you have any additional questions regarding these updated documents, please contact Cristin Geoghegan, English Language Arts/Literacy Specialist, at 609-633-6917 or cristin.geoghegan@doe.state.nj.us in the Office of Assessments.

Thank you.

JBH/2016PARCCEnglishLanguageArts/LiteracyPortfolioAppealsProcess

Attachments

c: Members, State Board of Education
Commissioner David C. Hespe
Senior Staff
Harry Lee
Peggy McDonald
Lori Ramella
Cristin Geoghegan
Executive County Superintendents
Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers
Executive County Business Official
County Test Coordinators
District Test Coordinators
Bilingual /ESL Coordinators
Directors of Approved Private Schools for the Disabled
Directors of Special Education Services
Directors of College-Operated Programs
Directors of a State Facility
NJ LEE Group
Garden State Coalition of Schools