



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLAY, REFER TO:

SEP 27 2012

Dear School Administrators:

As the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) continues to move forward to restructure our school system, we are pleased to announce that on September 6, 2012, the BIE submitted its Flexibility Waiver Request to the U.S. Department of Education (ED). To provide you with clarity in maintaining compliance under the requirements of Public Law 107-110, the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, we are notifying you of the assessment requirements for school year (SY) 2012-2013 and SY 2013-2014.

In SY 2012-2013 and SY 2013-2014, all BIE-funded schools will administer their state assessments to their students. In addition, the BIE will continue to implement the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) as a dual system for test development and comparison purposes. The NWEA MAP assessment is currently administered three times per school year and measures both proficiency and growth in subject areas tested.

For SY 2012-2013, the BIE will purchase the NWEA MAP for all BIE-funded schools. In addition, no costs to schools are anticipated in SY 2013-2014. Tribally-controlled schools can expect to receive a refund from NWEA if they have already purchased a license from them for SY 2012-2013. Tribally operated schools can contact Ms. Katie Redden with NWEA at (503) 548-5062 to discuss a refund on their purchase. Reimbursement cost procedures for BIE-operated schools are under discussion.

In addition, BIE will continue to use the Common Core State Standards (Common Core) for SY 2012-2013. The BIE is no different than other states in its implementation of the Common Core. We are all experiencing a similar transition as we align our standards and assessments to the Common Core.

These are exciting times for education within the United States. BIE is committed to providing support and guidance as we move to a unified assessment system for all BIE schools. If you have any questions about NWEA MAP or the Common Core, please contact Mr. Brian Bough, Supervisory Education Research Analyst, at (505) 563-5283.

Sincerely,

Brian Drapeaux
Acting Director, Bureau of Indian Education