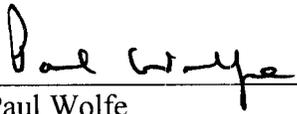


MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
AND
FEDERAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Trial Run of the Online Foreign Language Proficiency Assessments (STAMP)

The Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS) and the Federal Education Association (FEA) hereby agree to the attached guidance in conducting the Trial Run of the Online Foreign Language Proficiency Assessments (STAMP) during school year 2006-2007. Upon completion, the parties will meet to review the results of the Trial Run of the Online Foreign Language Proficiency Assessments (STAMP). FEA may then request additional bargaining on updates or modifications to be made prior to full implementation of the Online Foreign Language Proficiency Assessments (STAMP).



Paul Wolfe
Human Resources Director, DoDEA
February 28, 2007



Sheridan R. Pearce
FEA President
February 28, 2007

**Department of Defense Education Activity
Arlington, Virginia
Union Priority Issue Paper**

Subject: Trial Run of the Online Foreign Language Proficiency Assessments also known as STAMP

Background:

As part of the regular curriculum renewal cycle, DoDEA has developed new FL Standards & Proficiency Expectations which emphasize proficiency-oriented foreign language programs. This has implications for curriculum, instruction, student learning, assessment, and student placement in foreign language courses. In SY 05-06, DoDEA conducted a technical evaluation of FL classroom materials that included some proficiency-oriented assessments. To assist in the assessment of proficient learning of Foreign Languages, DoDEA has contracted with, *Language Learning Solutions* (LLS), to conduct on-line student proficiency assessments that are intended to:

1. Inform learning and instruction for students and teachers
2. Inform student placement in foreign language courses for teachers and administrators
3. Determine, from a systems-perspective, if we are meeting the Proficiency Expectations as outlined in the 2006 DoDEA Foreign Language Standards.

Process:

STAMP Proficiency Assessments

DoDEA plans to conduct a trial run of STAMP (Standards Assessment of Proficiency) proficiency assessments during Spring 2007, in each of the Areas with 1 teacher and their students per enrolled program from each Area for the following courses:

1. French II & IV (tests for reading, writing, and speaking)
2. German II & IV (tests for reading, writing, and speaking)
3. Japanese II & IV (tests for reading, writing, and speaking)
4. Spanish II & IV (tests for reading, writing, and speaking)

The purpose of the trial run will be to determine the training needs for teachers, the instructions needed for an efficient delivery process, and the technology issues, if any. The assessment will be conducted in two 45-minute intervals and will be based on the lab schedules at the schools participating. The recommended window for conducting the assessment will be from late April to early May (based on availability of the labs). Schools selected for the trial run will require the following: computer lab availability for two days for the classes/students selected, and microphone and speaker head sets for the speaking portion of the tests.

ClassPak

In addition to the trial run of the assessments DoDEA would like input on the online resources, ClassPak. ClassPaks are online teacher resources for developing proficiency-oriented lessons and quizzes. Teachers will be asked to review/use these materials, as time allows, and provide feedback via a survey on their observations of these support materials and what additional training may be needed during the FL implementation.

2/28/07
S
P

Training:

LLS will provide DoDEA a comprehensive online training module for the schools involved in this process. Additionally, teachers, students, administrators, and parents can access information and tutorials at any time on the LLS website. A half-day will be provided to teachers participating in the trial run to take the online training module and review the administration and proctoring instructions (3 pages) for conducting the assessment. Any remaining time could be used to review the online ClassPak.

Materials:

See the attached Fact Sheet for a description of these assessments and materials.

Teachers will receive the following online materials:

- LLS Website Tutorial
- LLS Training Module for DoDEA teachers
- STAMP tests for students (on-line authorization and access)
- ClassPak for teachers (on-line authorization and access)

In order to provide school-level support, ETs will be informed of the technology requirements.

Timeline:

- End February - March, 2007: Areas identify pilot teachers of French II & IV, German II & IV, Japanese II & IV, and Spanish II & IV
- April 2007: LLS Training Module for DoDEA teachers posted on newly created BlackBoard site
- Early May 2007: STAMP tests
- Late May: Teacher feedback

Scope:

Between 16 -20 teachers and their students of French II & IV, German II & IV, Japanese II & IV, and Spanish II & IV

Next Steps:

Full Implementation: Upon completion of the Spring 2007 Trial run, review of the process, and an analysis of the survey results, DoDEA will prepare an evaluation report of the process and make recommendations for the full implementation. Findings of the review will be provided to the union for review and input for this implementation.

DoDEA will be purchasing Language Learning Solutions proficiency assessments entitled STAMP (Standards Assessment of Proficiency) and ClassPaks (teacher resources for developing proficiency-oriented lessons and quizzes) in the following languages for SY 07-08:

1. French (tests for reading, writing, and speaking and ClassPaks)
2. German (tests for reading, writing, and speaking and ClassPaks)
3. Japanese (tests for reading, writing, and speaking and ClassPaks)

2/28/07
SLL
JW

4. Spanish (tests for reading, writing, and speaking and ClassPaks)

From Spring 2008-2011 DoDEA, through LLS contract, will provide comprehensive training modules for teachers to conduct end-of-year STAMP proficiency assessments and for building administrators to conduct “as needed” placement assessments. ClassPaks (as available) will be provided to teachers. The following language programs, tests, and materials are currently identified:

1. French II & IV (tests and ClassPaks available)
2. German II & IV (tests and ClassPaks available)
3. Japanese II & IV (tests and ClassPaks available)
4. Spanish II & IV (tests and ClassPaks available)
5. Chinese II & IV (tests available/ClassPaks under development)
6. Italian II & IV (tests available/ClassPaks under development)
7. Korean II & IV (tests anticipated spring 2008)
8. Arabic II & IV (tests anticipated spring 2009)

Implementation of the language specific assessments is dependent upon the availability of the class packs.

2/28/07
SKK
Pw