

DATE: July 2005  
TO: All Superintendents and 4A/5A Principals  
FROM: Bill Farney, Director  
SUBJECT: Orientation of UIL Sponsors, Advisors, Coaches, and Directors

Section 21 of the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules* requires the superintendent to provide an annual orientation for all grade 9-12 UIL directors, sponsors, advisors, and coaches regarding League rules, expectations, goals, purposes, and appropriate conduct during UIL contests. The orientation is intended to emphasize the leadership of the superintendent in providing consistent competition within the rules, which is crucial to the success of your UIL programs.

The Legislative Council is cognizant of the demands on the time and energies of the superintendent. Accordingly, this responsibility may be delegated to appropriate staff members. Please instruct the administrator of each campus for students in grades 9-12 under your jurisdiction to conduct an orientation for all UIL directors, advisors, sponsors, and coaches near the beginning of the school year. It might be better to have separate orientation sessions for academic coaches, music directors and athletic coaches at a time close to the beginning of their respective contest seasons.

The UIL staff has prepared the attached agenda materials and rules update. Please use as much or as little of it as appropriate in your local situation. These materials are being mailed to all superintendents and to principals of all AAAA and AAAAA schools. As you will note, the agenda contains only the topics with references as to the location of detailed information about the topic. You will want to personalize the presentation to fit your local situation.

## IMPACT OF 79<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### **Senate Bill 658: Beginning with the new reclassification and realignment for the 2006-07 school year.**

#### Sec. 33.0812. SCHEDULING EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PROHIBITED IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

- (a) The State Board of Education by rule shall prohibit participation in a University Interscholastic League area, regional, or state competition:
  - (1) on Monday through Thursday of the school week in which the primary administration of assessment instruments under Section 39.023 (a), (c), or (l) occurs; or
  - (2) if the primary administration of the assessment instruments is completed before Thursday of the school week, beginning on Monday and ending on the last school day on which the assessment instruments are administered.

### **House Bill 3563: Effective immediately.**

#### Sec. 33.091. PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL STEROID USE.

- (b) The league shall adopt rules prohibiting a student from participating in an athletic competition sponsored or sanctioned by the league unless:
  - (1) the student agrees not to use anabolic steroids; and
  - (2) the league obtains from the student's parent a statement signed by the parent and acknowledging that:
    - (A) state law prohibits possessing, dispensing, delivering, or administering a steroid in a manner not allowed by state law;
- (c) The league shall:
  - (1) develop an educational program for students engaged in extracurricular athletic activities sponsored or sanctioned by the league, parents of those students, and coaches of those activities regarding the health effects of steroid use; and
  - (2) make the program available to school districts.
- (d) During the 2005-2006 school year, the league shall conduct a survey regarding the extent of illegal steroid use by high school students, including students engaged in extracurricular athletic activities sponsored or sanctioned by the league. The survey must be designed to determine:
  - (1) the number of high school students found by school districts to have possessed or used illegal steroids;
  - (2) the number of school districts that test high school students, including students engaged in extracurricular athletic activities, for the presence of illegal steroids in the students' bodies; and
- (e) The league shall:
  - (1) cooperate with an appropriate public or private entity to study the effectiveness of the educational program;
  - (2) develop a plan for testing students engaged in extracurricular athletic activities sponsored or sanctioned by the league for the presence of illegal steroids in the students' bodies; and
  - (3) not later than December 1, 2006, file a written report with the legislature regarding:
    - (A) the results of the survey;
    - (B) the results of the study; and
    - (C) the plan for testing students.
- (f) If, based on the report, the legislature determines that the educational program required has not significantly reduced the use of illegal steroids by students engaged in extracurricular athletic activities, the legislature may require the league to implement the steroid testing plan.
- (g) The league may increase the membership fees required of school districts that participate in athletic competitions sponsored or sanctioned by the league in an amount necessary to offset the cost of league activities under this section.
- (i) The league shall develop the educational program not later than September 1, 2005.

## ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS (NO PASS, NO PLAY)

### Eligibility for UIL Participants For The First Six Weeks

UIL participants are eligible to participate in contests during the first six weeks of the school year provided the following standards have been met:

- Students beginning grades nine and below must have been promoted from a lower grade prior to the beginning of the current school year.
- Students beginning their second year of high school must have earned five credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements.
- Students beginning their third year of high school either must have earned a total of ten credits which count toward state high school graduation credits or a total of five credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements must have been earned during the 12 months preceding the first day of the current school year.
- Students beginning their fourth year of high school either must have earned a total of 15 credits which count toward state high school graduation credits or a total of five credits which count toward state high school graduation requirements must have been earned during the 12 months preceding the first day of the current school year.

Exceptions:

- (a) When a migrant student enrolls for the first time during a school year, all criteria cited above applies. All other students who enroll too late to earn a passing grade for a grading period are ineligible.
- (b) High school students transferring from out-of-state may be eligible the first six weeks of school if they meet the criteria cited above or school officials are able to determine that they would have been eligible if they had remained in the out-of-state school from which they are transferring.

Students who are not in compliance with these provisions may request a hardship appeal of their academic eligibility through the UIL state office.

**Local school boards may elect to adopt these standards for all activities in order to avoid having different standards for student participants (e.g., football, drill team, cheerleading, and all other extracurricular activities as defined by State Board of Education rule [TAC Chapter §76]).**

### Eligibility For All Extracurricular Participants After The First Six Weeks Of The School Year

A student who receives a grade below 70 at the end of any grading period (after the first six weeks of the school year) in any academic class (other than an advanced class) or a student with disabilities who fails to meet the standards in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) may not participate in extracurricular activities for at least three school weeks. An ineligible student may practice or rehearse, however. The student regains eligibility when the principal and teachers determine that he or she has: (1) earned a passing grade (70 or above) in all academic classes, other than those that are honors or advanced, and (2) completed the three school weeks of ineligibility and seven calendar day waiting period.

All schools must check grades for all participants at the end of the first six weeks of the school year. From that point, grades are checked at the end of the grading period whether it is six, nine, or twelve weeks in length. Students who pass remain eligible until the end of the next grading period.

Bonnie Northcutt is the UIL staff member responsible for this area. If she is unavailable, Mark Cousins or Richard Floyd can assist you.

Your leadership in all UIL matters is vital and is appreciated. Please call me or any member of the staff if we can assist you in any way.

**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE**  
**Directors, Sponsors, and Coaches Orientation**  
**2005-06**

I. Purposes and Philosophy of the UIL

- Academic: Section 901 of the *Constitution and Contest Rules*  
Music: Sections 1100 and 1101 of the *Constitution and Contest Rules*  
Athletic: Sections 1200 and 1201 of the *Constitution and Contest Rules*  
Section 1401 - 7th and 8th grade purposes.

II. Eligibility

Academic and music eligibility requirements are different from athletic eligibility. Please see the attached sheet for general requirements and the *Constitution and Contest Rules* for specific information.

|           | <u>High School</u>         | <u>Elementary/Junior High</u> |
|-----------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Academic: | Sections 400 and 420       | Section 1405                  |
| Music:    | Sections 400, 430 and 1102 | Section 1102                  |
| Athletic: | Sections 400, 440 and 1205 | Section 1400                  |

III. Rules for Practice, Games, and Contests

- Academic: Section 901 through Section 1034 (Specific contests are outlined separately)  
Music: Section 1102 through Section 1115  
Athletics: Sections 1206 and Section 1208, and pertinent athletic sections (i.e., football, baseball, etc.)  
Athletic manuals: Please note the requirement in Section 1208 that a coach will receive an automatic penalty for being ejected from a contest.

IV. Local Plan for Hosting Games, Meets, and Contests

The home school is responsible for facilities, officials and security. Responsibility should be designated in each of the UIL contest areas.

V. Coordinated Communications with the UIL Staff

Designate who will make the contact. In many instances, four people from a school will contact four different UIL staff members with four slightly different fact situations about a question, and thereby possibly obtain four slightly different answers. It is always helpful if full and consistent information is furnished. If communication within a member school is good, one phone call should suffice.

VI. Local Behavior Expectations. Outline Methods to Achieve Expectations:

- A. Coaches, directors, and sponsors
- B. Student participants
- C. Fans

VII. Goal Settings and Value Objectives:

- A. School
- B. Academic department
- C. Music department
- D. Athletic department

VIII. Other Local Items

- A. Budget for each program
- B. Scheduling to reduce loss of school time
- C. No Pass, No Play

## 2005-06 GENERAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

According to UIL standards, students are eligible to represent their school in interscholastic activities if they:

- have not graduated from high school,
- are full-time, day students in the school, and have been in regular attendance at the school since the 6th class day of the present school year, or have been in regular attendance for 15 or more calendar days before the contest or competition,
- meet the UIL academic standard for the first six weeks of the school year found on page 1 of this document,
- are in compliance with state law and rules of the State Board of Education,
- are enrolled in a four year program of high school courses, and initially enrolled in the 9th grade not more than 4 years ago nor in the 10th grade not more than 3 years ago,
- were not recruited,
- are not in violation of the awards rule, and
- meet the specific eligibility requirements for academic, music and/or athletic competition.

**NOTE: Any time a student changes schools, it is a red flag to check the residence of the parent(s) and to be sure that the student complies with local transfer and admission policies. If the student has been continuously enrolled in and attending school for one calendar year and the parents leave the attendance zone, check to be sure that the student complies with local admission and transfer policies. (See Section 442.)**

### Understanding Rules for Scheduling Contests in Grades 9-12

- Schedules—The following combines state law, State Board of Education regulations and UIL rules. The Texas Education Agency allows participation in one contest per school week. Participation is defined as involvement with the activity (e.g., traveling with the team, sitting on the bench). Example: On a Tuesday night, the student's name is on the score book but she remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This counts as participation according to state law. That student cannot participate again until Friday after school. UIL limits participation in contests per calendar week in some sports. Participation is defined as a student actually entering a contest. Example: On Tuesday night, the student's name is on the score book but the student remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This does not count as participation in a UIL contest according to UIL but does count according to state law. That student cannot participate again until Friday after school. The Tuesday game does not count as one of the games UIL permits the student to participate in for that calendar week or for the season because the student did not go in the game.
- *Constitution and Contest Rules: Section 5: Definitions*
  - (a) Calendar week means 12:01 a.m. on Sunday through midnight on Saturday.
  - (y) School week means the week beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first instructional day of a calendar week and ending at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.
- Texas Administrative Code (TAC)
  - (1) One contest per school week: School districts shall adopt policies limiting extra-curricular activities from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays) by scheduling no more than one contest or performance per activity per student.  
Exception: Tournaments and post-season competition, as well as district varsity contests postponed by weather or public disaster, may also be scheduled during the school week.
  - (2) Eight-hour practice rule: School districts shall adopt policies limiting extra-curricular activities from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays) by limiting practice outside the school day to a maximum of eight hours per school week per activity.

For the purposes of this regulation, the following situations are considered as one contest during the school week.

Volleyball:

- (1) A single match.
- (2) A dual match (a team plays two other teams or plays the same team twice at the same site on the same day.) A dual match counts as one of the two matches UIL permits students per calendar week and counts as two of the total matches for the student per season.)
- (3) A double header (a student may play in a varsity and a junior varsity match or a ninth grade and a varsity match at the same site the same night). A double header counts as the total two allowable matches UIL permits the student for the calendar week and counts as two of the total matches for the season.

*Students could also play in a tournament the same week they participate in a single match, dual match, or double header.*

**Basketball and Soccer:**

- (1) A single game; or
- (2) a double header (a student may play in a varsity and a junior varsity game or a ninth grade and a junior varsity game at one site the same night). It counts as the two total games the student may play for the calendar week and two of the total games for the season.

*Students may not play in a tournament the same week as they play in a double header.*

**Cross Country, Golf, Swimming, Team Tennis, Tennis:**

An invitational meet/tournament, dual or triangular, competition. Schools shall not enter invitational tournaments/meets scheduled on more than one school day per any one tournament.

**Baseball/Softball:**

- (1) A single game; or
- (2) a double header (a student could play two back-to-back varsity games or in a varsity and junior varsity game, back-to-back. Each game counts as one of the student's total games for the season.)

*Students may play in additional games at the conclusion of that school week because UIL does not limit the number of games per calendar week in these two team sports.*

**Track and Field:**

Students or teams representing a participant school are permitted to participate in an invitational track and field meet only as listed below:

- (1) After 2:30 on Friday or the last day of the school week, or as early as the end of the academic school day for all participating schools on a day preceding a holiday or break. **EXCEPTION:** A student representing a participant school may participate in a maximum of two meets which start no earlier than 12:00 noon on Friday.
- (2) Or on Saturday or school holidays;
- (3) Or on any school day other than the last day of the school week with the following conditions:
  - (a) Students shall not miss any school time other than the in-school athletic class period.
  - (b) Events shall not begin until after the end of the academic school day for all schools involved.
  - (c) Schools utilizing this option are limited to a one day meet.
  - (d) A school or student participating in this type of meet shall not enter another track and field meet during the same school week, Monday through Friday.
  - (e) No event shall start after 10:00 p.m.

Remember that the superintendent or a designee of the superintendent is responsible for approving all athletic schedules.

Dates and times for cross country, golf, swimming, team tennis, tennis, and track and field practices (involving a school coach and student athletes from that coach's attendance zone) that are scheduled during the summer vacation shall be pre-approved by the superintendent or his designee.

### 2005-06 UIL Student Activities Conference Dates

The UIL will conduct four Student Activity Conferences next fall, featuring all the high school academic events at these four sites.

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| September 10 | Texas Tech University, Lubbock           |
| September 17 | University of North Texas - Denton       |
| October 1    | University of Texas at Austin            |
| October 15   | Sam Houston State University, Huntsville |

They're free! No pre-registration needed either.

The conferences begin at 9 a.m. and end by 1:30 p.m. without a lunch break. This allows us greater flexibility in scheduling without sacrificing contact hours or program quality. Most importantly, it allows schools to return home three hours earlier. Bring along light snacks for students who need a sugar or carbohydrate boost around noon.

Conferences are scheduled to minimize conflicts with SAT and ACT tests, band contests and state conventions and to maximize participation by the finest students and teachers in Texas. Pre-registration is not required, and there is no fee for attendance.

Instructional sessions are designed for beginning students, advanced students and coaches. Other sessions for coaches, administrators and academic coordinators will be offered as well.

Conferences feature lectures and presentations by UIL contest directors, college professors and high school teachers. Sessions will include discussions on contest preparation, demonstrations, performances and contest administration. Students may choose from novice and advanced sessions in some academic areas, as well as small-group sessions in specific UIL activities.

**Bring students!** Most sessions are intended to help students begin preparing for spring contests. Mark your calendar and plan to attend one or more of these free conferences.

Tentative programs for each site will be posted on the UIL web site, and final programs will be available at each site.

### 2005-06 Academic Meet Dates

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| C-X Debate District*                                       | January 2 - February 11 |
| C-X Debate State*  | March 13-14, 17-18      |
| First Week for Academic District and OAP Zone and District | March 20-25             |
| Last Week for Academic District and OAP Zone and District  | March 27-April 1        |
| Area One-Act Play  | April 3-8               |
| Regional Academic and One-Act Play                         | April 21-22             |
| State Academic and One-Act Play                            | May 4-6                 |

\*The deadline to submit required judging information for state meet without \$100 late fee and the certification deadline for second place is February 16, 2006.

### **2005-06 Policy Rule Changes**

- Increase the major award limit from \$60 to \$70 and allow schools to give a student both the \$70 major award and the \$10 minor award for the same activity during the same school year – §480 (a) (1).
- Further identify common indicators of changing schools for athletic purposes – §443 (b).
- Delete the requirement for a student whose parents reside outside the attendance zone to file an annual Previous Athletic Participation Form (PAPF) – §440 (b) (1).
- Add violations of state law in regard to extracurricular activities to the classification of violations, Category A for school district personnel and schools – §51 (a) and §52 (a).
- Strike the word “normal” from references in the UIL four (4) year rule for varsity eligibility – §405 (a).
- Prohibit unattached participation in school-sponsored contests, meets and tournaments – §1207 (d).

### **2005-06 Academic Rule Changes**

- Prohibit a contestant who is disqualified for violation of a contest rule from advancing in that contest as a member of the team to the next higher meet – §902 (g) (1) (F).
- Revise the grading scale for the Listening Contest to include a deduction of points for incorrect answers – §1430 (e) (3).
- Revise the grading scale for the Music Memory Contest so that each element of an answer is worth two points, with one point deducted for misspelling – §1446 (e) (3) (A & B).
- Reduce the number of words in the tie-breaking portions of the elementary and junior high Spelling Contest by ten words – §1470 (b) (2).
- Add individual competition to the Art Contest and Music Memory Contest – §1410 (a) (3 & 4) and (e) (2) and §1446 (a) (3 & 4) and (e) (4 & 5).
- Allow for greater flexibility in adjusting the scoring procedures of the Computer Science Contest, and also eliminate an outdated section of the scoring rules – §928 (e) (10).
- Create a pilot theatrical design contest.

### **2005-06 Athletic Rule Changes**

- Alter the limitation on when a school could scrimmage in football in certain situations – §1250 (b) (5) (A).
- Changes in payment of officials, timeliness of payment and scratches of officials – §1204.
- Add mixed doubles to spring tennis competition – §1300.
- Eliminate the Texas Cup in Conference 1A basketball – §1230.
- Extend the ending date of the summer conditioning program one additional week, from the third Thursday in July to the fourth Thursday in July – §1206 (h).
- In Conference 1A, advance three teams to the playoffs in all team sports, including football, **effective August 1, 2006**.
- In Conference 5A, advance four teams to the playoffs in all team sports, including football, **effective August 1, 2006**.

### **2005-06 Music Rule Changes**

- Expand the conducting option in solo and small ensemble competition to include all instrumental ensembles of 11 or more performers – §1108 (h) (9) (B).

## Athletic Rules Books

Be sure your coaches all have rules books for the activities they coach. The conduct that causes an automatic penalty to coaches for unsportsmanlike conduct is defined in the athletic rules books cited below. Be sure your staff is informed and has studied the rules of the game prior to their first contest.

Some coaches are penalized for breaking a rule due to lack of knowledge. If they have a rules book for their sport, they could avoid inadvertently breaking rules. **Superintendents should remind coaches that they are responsible for having access to UIL sports manuals and playing rules books at all times and that they are responsible for purchasing rules books prior to the first game.**

The UIL does not sell athletic rules books; however, each high school is mailed a complimentary copy of the following rules books: NCAA Football Rules, National Federation Volleyball Rules, National Federation Basketball Rules (one for girls' coach and one for boys' coach), National Federal Soccer Rules, National Federation Softball Rules, National Federation Baseball Rules. Rules books may be ordered from the appropriate organization listed below.

### **BASEBALL, BASKETBALL, SOCCER, SOFTBALL, TRACK & FIELD, VOLLEYBALL, WRESTLING**

NFHS Customer Service  
PO Box 361246  
Indianapolis, IN 46236-5324  
1-800-776-3462  
FAX 1-317-899-7496  
[www.nfhs.com](http://www.nfhs.com)  
\$6.75 each plus shipping

### **TENNIS**

USTA On-Line Store  
Attention: Orders  
6632 Telegraph Road, Dept. 363  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301  
1-877-749-9855  
[www.usta.com/store](http://www.usta.com/store)  
\$2.75 each plus shipping

### **GOLF**

United States Golf Association  
P.O. Box 2000  
Far Hills, NJ 07931  
1-800-336-4446  
[www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org)  
\$1.00 each plus shipping

### **FOOTBALL**

NCAA Publications  
P.O. Box 361147  
Indianapolis, IN 46236-5323  
1-888-388-9748  
<http://ncaa.sportgraphics.biz>  
\$7.80 each plus shipping

## Cheerleading Guidelines

The UIL requires schools to follow the guidelines found in the National Federation *Spirit Rules Book* for cheerleading stunts during UIL contests. We also encourage schools to do the same for all cheer events. The ordering information is the same as for the National Federation rules books listed above. The cost is \$6.75 each plus shipping.

## Coaches and Officials Positive Expectations

As required by Section 1208 of the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules*, all coaches and officials shall attend a COPE meeting prior to their sport season.

### Section 1208: ATHLETIC REGULATIONS

#### (i) UIL COACHES AND OFFICIALS POSITIVE EXPECTATIONS MEETING (COPE) AND REGISTRATION.

##### (1) *Coaches and Officials Required to Register With UIL and Attend Meetings.*

(A) All officials and first-year coaches and coaches ejected from a contest the previous school year in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, tennis, and volleyball shall attend a joint COPE meeting prescribed by the UIL prior to their sport season. A coach may attend these meetings or a seminar (based on COPE material) conducted by the head coach or the athletic director/coordinator.

(B) The names of coaches and officials who register and attend will be placed on a registration list which will be forwarded to the UIL office or the TASO, or placed on file at the local school. This information will be provided by the local officiating chapters and other groups who hold these meetings.

(2) *Failure to Register.* If a first year coach or a coach who was ejected the previous year is ejected, that coach shall automatically be suspended from the next game/contest unless they have proof of being registered.

(3) *Loss of Registration.* Coaches who are ejected from games must complete the registration process before the next season.

#### (j) MINIMUM PENALTY FOR MISCONDUCT.

(1) *Automatic Minimum Penalty.* Any coach who is ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, or any football coach who is given three or more 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalties during a contest, is automatically penalized unless the superintendent or designee appeals the penalty to the State Executive Committee.

(A) Coaches may accept the automatic penalty, public reprimand (name will be published once in the Leaguer) and one year's probation in the applicable sport.

(B) Coaches may accept the alternate penalty of reprimand (name will not be published in the Leaguer), one year's probation in the applicable sport, and suspension from the next regularly scheduled contest.

(C) Coaches may appeal the penalty to the State Executive Committee (the State Executive Committee may revoke the penalty, uphold the penalty, or assess a greater penalty).

(D) Coaches who do not notify the UIL office within three school days indicating their preference will be assessed the automatic penalty.

(E) *First Year Coaches and Coaches Who Were Ejected The Previous School Year Who Have Not Attended a COPE Meeting.* First year coaches and coaches who were ejected the previous school year who have not attended a COPE meeting shall contact the UIL office within three school days of the violation, indicating which of the following options they prefer:

(i) Coaches may accept the automatic penalty, public reprimand (name will be published in the *Leaguer* for one year), one year's probation in the applicable sport, and suspension from the next regularly scheduled contest.

(ii) Coaches may appeal the penalty to the State Executive Committee (the State Executive Committee may revoke the penalty, uphold the penalty, or assess a greater penalty.)

(iii) Coaches who do not notify the UIL office within three school days indicating their intent to appeal will be assessed the automatic penalty.

(2) *Automatic Greater Penalty.* If a coach so penalized has no proof of having attended a joint rules meeting prior to the sports season, that coach shall also be automatically suspended from the next game/contest.

(3) *Subsequent Violations.* Any further ejection or accumulation of three 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalties during a football game, while on probation, will require the coach to appear before the State Executive Committee for consideration of penalty.

(4) *Notification.* Schools must notify the UIL within three school days if a coach has been ejected from a game or received three 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalties.

## INCREASING BENEFITS OF COMPETITION

### HOW TO INCREASE THE BENEFITS OF ACADEMIC COMPETITION

- Appoint a campus coordinator for UIL academic contests. This person will be responsible for all materials, information and mailings regarding UIL academics including the *Leaguer*. This person will also distribute the *UIL Constitution & Contest Rules* and calendars. All sponsors should have a *C&CR* or a copy of pertinent pages. Make sponsors aware of UIL web site.
- Emphasize academic competition. Recruit outstanding teachers to coach academic contests and pay them a stipend based on their number of contact hours outside the classroom with students.
- Plan a detailed budget and implementation schedule. Insure that all UIL academic contest dates are placed on your school's master calendar to avoid conflicts with proms, athletics, band, etc.
- Order study packets for contests using the Academic Order Form.
- Attend district planning meeting and provide input on setting the schedule to follow the conflict pattern. This meeting is typically held in August or early September. Make certain spring meet schedule is approved at this meeting, and that it is disseminated to all schools immediately afterwards.
- Prepare academic team rules, regulations and procedures. This might include everything from where to meet on the day of a trip to listing requirements for financial liability. Even if your school is not hosting the district meet, order a copy of the Spring Meet Handbook and review it.
- Make arrangements for academic coaches and students to attend a UIL Student Activities Conference and/or the summer Capital Conference for academic coordinators and speech/debate coaches.
- Find tournaments or practice meets for students to attend. Check the UIL web site for meets. Remind academic coaches to check eligibility before taking students to contests.
- Make sure academic district meet entries are submitted on-line via the UIL Spring Meet Entry System at least 10 days before district meet after checking eligibility for all entries.
- Make sure seniors who have participated in the State Meet get scholarship applications.
- Create a booster club for students competing in UIL and other academic competitions.
- Demand local media coverage for academic and fine arts activities.

### HOW TO INCREASE THE BENEFITS OF MUSIC COMPETITION

- In word and action, emphasize the importance of the music, not the importance of the contest.
- Establish goals that stress progress towards musical goals rather than Division One ratings and trophies.
- Constantly take steps to enlighten students and patrons regarding the fact that success in contests is an outgrowth of learning and not an end in itself.
- Prepare students, administrators, and patrons for the subjective adjudication of music competition.
- Allow time after any competition to reflect upon the achievement of musical goals rather than the results of the contest.

### HOW TO INCREASE THE BENEFITS OF ATHLETIC COMPETITION

- Teach the value of fitness: exercise, nutrition, self-awareness.
- Give student athletes thorough physical examinations and proper equipment.
- To the School Board: Clarify goals of athletics with the students' welfare being the central concern.
- To the Superintendent: Clarify educational goals of the athletic program with coaches, parents, fans. Include these goals in the job descriptions, and hire qualified people who will work toward these goals.
- To the Coach: Work with students to set personal and teams goals and achieve them. Goals should include studies and sportsmanship, as well as the skills for the game.
- To the Coach: Care about students even more than the sport. Know the players and help them handle pressure.
- To the Coach: Use your tremendous influence to help athletes set and attain high scholastic and behavior goals appropriate for individuals in the limelight of public attention.
- Cultivate good attitudes: "Give 100% no matter what the outcome."
- Recognize students' accomplishments in academics, athletics, and other activities.
- Encourage the media to recognize the academic as well as athletic progress of players.
- Continue in-service programs for sponsors, coaches, administrators. Include information on what behavior is expected of coaches and players and what is not tolerated. Explain the importance of emotional control during practice and games.

The following information is provided in order to assist schools in avoiding scheduling conflicts between school activities and test dates. Please keep it handy to assist you in checking schedules.

**2005-06 TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY STUDENT ASSESSMENT CALENDAR**

| <b>Test Date</b>                | <b>Test</b>   | <b>Report Dates</b>  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Testing Window: Sept 12-23      | Fall Study (selected sample)  | None   |
| Oct 18 (Tues)                   | <i>TAKS: Exit Level English Language Arts (retest)</i><br><i>TAAS: Exit Level Writing (retest)</i>  | Nov 30-Dec 2   |
| Oct 19 (Wed)                    | <i>TAKS &amp; TAAS: Exit Level Mathematics (retest)</i>   | Nov 30-Dec 2   |
| Oct 20 (Thurs)                  | <i>TAKS: Exit Level Science (retest)</i><br><i>TAAS: Exit Level Reading (retest)</i>  | Nov 30-Dec 2   |
| Oct 21 (Fri)                    | <i>TAKS: Exit Level Social Studies (retest)</i>   | Nov 30-Dec 2   |
| Testing Window:<br>Jan 17-Feb 3 | TAKS Field Tests: Grades 4 & 7 Writing; Grade 4 Spanish Writing;<br>Grade 9 Reading; Grade 10 & Exit Level English Language Arts<br>SDAA II Field Tests: Grades 4 & 7 Writing; Grade 10 English<br>Language Arts; Grades 3-9 Reading; Grades 3-10 Mathematics   | None   |
| Feb 21 (Tues)                   | TAKS: Grades 3 & 5 Reading & Spanish Reading<br>TAKS: Grades 4 & 7 Writing; Grade 4 Spanish Writing; Grade 9<br>Reading; Grade 10 & Exit Level English Language Arts<br><i>TAKS: Exit Level Writing (retest)</i><br>SDAA II: Enrolled Grade 4 Writing Levels K/1, 2, ¾; Enrolled Grade<br>7 Writing Levels K/1, 2, ¾, 5, 6/7; Enrolled Grade 10 Writing<br>Levels K/1, 2, ¾, 5, 6/7, or 8/9 | Mar 10<br>May 5-12<br><br>Apr 12-14<br>May 5-12              |
| Feb 22 (Wed)                    | <i>TAKS &amp; TAAS: Exit Level Mathematics (retest)</i><br>SDAA II: Enrolled Grade 9 Reading Level 9; Enrolled Grade 10<br>English Language Arts Level 10 or Reading Level 9  | Apr 12-14<br>May 5-12  |
| Feb 23 (Thurs)                  | TAKS: Make-up session for Grade 10 English Language Arts<br><i>TAKS: Exit Level Science (retest)</i><br>SDAA II: Make-up session for Enrolled Grade 10 English Language<br>Arts Level 10<br><i>TAAS: Exit Level Reading (retest)</i>  | May 5-12<br>Apr 12-14<br>May 5-12<br><br>Apr 12-14           |
| Feb 24 (Fri)                    | <i>TAKS: Exit Level Social Studies (retest)</i>   | Apr 12-14  |
| Completed by Feb 25 (Sat)       | All make-up sessions for tests scheduled to be administered on Feb 21 and included in the calculation of AYP must be completed by this date. These tests include TAKS Grade 3 & 5 Reading (English and Spanish).  |  |
| Testing Window:<br>Mar 13-Apr 7 | Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) – includes Reading Proficiency Tests in English and Texas English<br>Language Proficiency Observation Protocols<br>RPTE II Field Tests: Grades 2-12<br>Other LEP Student Field Tests – Selected Grades and Subjects   | Apr 28-May 5<br><br>None<br>None                             |
| Apr 4 (Tues)                    | TAKS: Grade 5 Mathematics and Spanish Mathematics   | Apr 20   |
| Completed by Apr 6 (Thurs)      | All make-up sessions for Grade 5 mathematics tests (English and Spanish versions) scheduled to be administered on Apr 4 must be completed by this date.   |  |
| Apr 18 (Tues)                   | TAKS: Grades 3-4, 6-8 & 10 Mathematics; Grades 3-4 & 6 Spanish<br>Mathematics<br><i>TAKS: Exit Level English Language Arts (retest)</i><br>SDAA II: Grades 3-10 Mathematics<br><i>TAAS: Exit Level Writing (retest)</i>   | May 5-12<br><br>May 8-10<br>May 5-12<br>May 8-10             |
| Apr 19 (Wed)                    | TAKS: Grades 4 & 6-8 Reading; Grades 4 & 6 Spanish Reading; Exit<br>Level Mathematics<br><i>TAKS: Grades 3 &amp; 5 Reading and Spanish Reading (retest)</i><br><i>TAKS: Exit Level Mathematics (retest)</i><br>SDAA II: Grades 3-8 Reading<br><i>TAAS: Exit Level Mathematics (retest)</i>  | May 5-12<br><br>May 5-12<br>May 8-10<br>May 5-12<br>May 8-10 |

**2005-06 TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY STUDENT ASSESSMENT CALENDAR (continued)**

|                                   |   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Apr 20 (Thurs)                    | TAKS: Grades 5, 8, 10 & Exit Level Science; Grade 5 Spanish Science; Grade 9 Mathematics<br><i>TAKS: Exit Level Science (retest); TAAS: Exit Level Reading (retest)</i>   | May 5-12<br>May 8-10 |
| Apr 21 (Fri)                      | TAKS: Grades 8, 10 & Exit Level Social Studies<br><i>TAKS: Exit Level Social Studies (retest)</i>   | May 5-12<br>May 8-10 |
| Completed by Apr 22 (Sat)         | All make-up sessions for tests scheduled to be administered on Apr 18-19, and included in the calculation of AYP must be completed by this date. This includes Grades 3-4, 6-8 & 10 Mathematics and Grades 3-8 Reading. |                      |
| May 16 (Tues)                     | <i>TAKS: Grade 5 Mathematics and Spanish Mathematics (retest)</i>   | June 1               |
| Completed by May 18 (Thurs)       | All make-up sessions for Grade 5 Mathematics tests (English and Spanish versions) scheduled to be administered on May 16 must be completed by this date.  |                      |
| June 27 (Tues)                    | <i>TAKS: Grade 5 Mathematics and Spanish Mathematics (retest)</i>   | July 14              |
| June 28 (Wed)                     | <i>TAKS: Grades 3 &amp; 5 Reading and Spanish Reading (retest)</i>  | July 14              |
| Testing Window:<br>June 19-July 7 | <i>TAKS: Grades 3 &amp; 5 Reading Alternate Assessment; Grade 5 Mathematics Alternate Assessment</i>  | None                 |
| July 11 (Tues)                    | <i>TAKS: Exit Level English Language Arts (retest); TAAS: Exit Level Writing (retest)</i>   | Aug 9-11             |
| July 12 (Wed)                     | <i>TAKS &amp; TAAS: Exit Level Mathematics (retest)</i>   | Aug 9-11             |
| July 13 (Thurs)                   | <i>TAKS: Exit Level Science (retest); TAAS: Exit Level Reading (retest)</i>   | Aug 9-11             |
| July 14 (Fri)                     | <i>TAKS: Exit Level Social Studies (retest)</i>   | Aug 9-11             |

The Commissioner of Education encourages districts to avoid scheduling extracurricular activities or public performances the day or the evening before the administration of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) for grades 3-11. Districts are encouraged to consider the impact on students involved in the testing program before scheduling any extracurricular activity during this time period.

**2005-06 TESTING SCHEDULE - BY TEST**

| Test Date  | Test   | Regular Registration Deadline | Late Registration Deadline |
|--|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| September 24   | ACT  | August 19                     | September 2                |
| October 22   | ACT  | September 16                  | September 30               |
| December 10  | ACT  | November 4                    | November 17                |
| February 11  | ACT  | January 6                     | January 20                 |
| April 8  | ACT  | March 3                       | March 17                   |
| June 10  | ACT  | May 5                         | May 19                     |
| October 8  | SAT & Subject Tests  | September 7                   | September 14               |
| November 5   | SAT & Subject Tests – Includes Language Tests with Listening | September 30                  | October 12                 |
| December 3   | SAT & Subject Tests  | October 28                    | November 9                 |
| January 28   | SAT & Subject Tests  | December 22                   | January 4                  |
| April 1  | SAT only   | February 24                   | March 8                    |
| May 6  | SAT & Subject Tests  | April 3                       | April 12                   |
| June 3   | SAT & Subject Tests  | April 28                      | May 10                     |
| Note: Sunday SAT test dates are scheduled following each Saturday test date for students who cannot test on Saturday because of religious reasons. |  |                               |                            |
| October 12, October 15   | PSAT/NMSQT   |                               |                            |

For more information on ACT tests, go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

For more information on SAT, PSAT/NMSQT AND AP tests, go to [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

