SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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August 3, 2010

Superintendent Mark Mansell
La Center School District
PO BOX 1840
Yacolt, WA 98629-5507

Dear Superintendent Mansell:

The Reading Assessment Team at the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) would like to inform you that Janice Broten participated on the Pilot Rangefinding Committee for the Reading grade 8 Measurements of Student Progress Assessment. Janice attended a meeting in Seattle, Washington, July 25-29, 2010.

Teacher participation in the development of the state reading assessments' passages and items is imperative to the integrity of the test development process. In the course of our work together, committee members develop an in-depth knowledge of the reading targets based on the Essential Academic Learning Requirements.

Committee members are fully involved in every step in the test development process and have the opportunity to share their expertise. Through this experience, teachers and OSPI staff members "train each other," so to speak; teachers provide the hands-on knowledge of what students know and what they can do, while OSPI staff provide the training for item development. It is OSPI's goal to enable classroom teachers to make excellent decisions about their students' growth and achievement after they leave the committee.

We welcome further involvement from your district and we wish you good luck as you continue to provide excellent service and support to the members of your educational community.

Thanks again,

Donnita Hawkins
OSPI Reading Assessment Specialist
600 SE Washington Street
Olympia, WA 98504-7200

cc: Janice Broten