



OFFICE OF THE STATE
SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

November 27, 2024

Dear Dr. Drewana Bey and Danielle Johnson,

Please consider this letter as the official notification of final findings from the Office of the State Superintendent's (OSSE's) test integrity investigations for the 2023-24 administration of the ACCESS for ELLs assessment at Bancroft Elementary School. The findings include five Significant findings, and no sanctions imposed. The details and context for these findings are below.

Each year, OSSE reviews districtwide assessment administration to ensure the validity and reliability of the assessment results. As part of this process, OSSE reviews test security protocols and data to ensure that the tests were administered with fidelity. OSSE takes breaches of test security very seriously, as violations of any nature can jeopardize confidence in the accuracy of our assessment results. At the same time, it is important to note that violations are intended to capture a broad range of issues in test administration and do not necessarily indicate wrongdoing or intentional misconduct. We appreciate the opportunity to work in partnership with Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to improve test integrity and we look forward to finding ways to better support LEAs in the future in this area.

During the 2023-24 ACCESS administration season, your LEA submitted to OSSE five incident reports detailing test integrity violations involving a School Test Coordinator and multiple Test Administrators. OSSE required the school to submit a "Fact Finding Inquiry" that provided additional information about the incident and corrective actions the LEA will take to ensure such violations do not occur again. The submitted information during administration, and the LEA-led Investigation that occurred over Fall 2024 will serve as the source for any findings and actions detailed below.

OSSE classifies findings from test integrity incidents in the following manner:

- No findings: No evidence of test security violations, wrongdoing, or error
- Minor: Minor misadministration errors (e.g., incomplete or missing test documents, inconsistencies in the application of administration procedures)
- Moderate: Moderate misadministration errors (e.g., misinterpretation of requirements in the Test Coordinator/Administrator Manuals not related to test tampering or academic fraud; failure to report certain types of incidents; failure to distribute, collect, or refusal to sign Non-Disclosure Statements)
- Significant: Substantiated isolated test security violations; test tampering or academic fraud (e.g., educator coaching; providing students with answers; allowing student use of calculators or other technology when prohibited)
- Critical: Substantiated systemic test security violations; school- or LEA-led test tampering or academic fraud (e.g., school- or LEA-level coordination of educator coaching or test tampering; school-wide test fraud)

OSSE has reviewed the results of the 2023-24 assessment post-administration investigations and found Bancroft Elementary School to have the following findings:

School/Campus	Finding(s)	Classification(s)
Bancroft Elementary School	Leaving secure test materials in a non-secure location or unattended by authorized personnel.	Significant
Bancroft Elementary School	Failing to observe the test material chain of custody procedures as outlined in the school test security plan by not tracking the exchange of materials for each testing session, including documenting accurate date, testing location, Test Administrator name, secure materials, and Test Administrator initials.	Significant
Bancroft Elementary School	Altering the test procedures stated in the formal instructions accompanying the Districtwide assessments.	Significant
Bancroft Elementary School	Assisting students with answers to test questions using verbal or nonverbal cues during administering the assessment.	Significant
Bancroft Elementary School	Allowing students to use notes, references, or other aids, by failing to remove prohibited academic content from classroom prior to and during testing.	Significant

Following the 2023-24 assessment post administration review, OSSE has not issued formal sanctions in connection with the 2023-24 administration of ACCESS for ELLs at Bancroft ES. The comprehensive and timely steps taken by DCPS during ACCESS administration were both appropriate and necessary to meet all expectations of corrective action.

At this point, no further action is required from you or your LEA. OSSE appreciates your partnership in this process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Snyder at stephanie.snyder@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Dr. Antoinette Mitchell
State Superintendent of Education
Interim Office of the State Superintendent of Education

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