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August 14, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

House Bill 244 was passed by the legislature and signed by the governor in the spring of 2013. HB 244 is the law that guides school districts on the necessary components of school leader and teacher evaluation instruments. Included for the first time in this law is a measurement to account for student learning growth that occurs in a course or grade.

The Cobb County School District will implement Student Learning Objective Assessments during the 2015-2016 school year. These assessments consist of a pre-test at the beginning of the instructional period (year-long, semester, or quarter) and a post-test at the end of the instructional period. There is no preparation needed for your student to take the pre-assessment of the SLO this year. The post-assessment will be administered in December for semester courses and in May for year-long courses. More information on the post-assessment will be provided at that time.

**What is a Student Learning Objective (SLO)?**

SLOs are subject-specific learning objectives that provide growth measures for student learning. Teams of Cobb County teachers from throughout the district developed the SLO assessments that we will administer this year.

For the 2015-2016 school year, the SLO implementation requires teachers to use assessments to determine student growth over the course of the year. The results of these assessments ensure that students, teachers, and schools are moving toward a common vision of exemplary instruction and high levels of student academic growth.

I have listed the dates of the pre-test SLO below. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Shannon Kiger

Assistant Principal of Lost Mountain Middle School

SLO Pre-Assessment Schedule

Spanish (Grade 8) August 17 (Downs) and August 18 (Penetra)

Visual Arts (Grade 8) August 18 (Denison)

Business (Grade 8) August 20 (Strother)

PE/Health (Grade 6) August 20 (Coe), August 21 (Ravenscraft), and August 21 (Felix)

Chorus (Grade 6) August 24 (Champion)

Band (Grade 6) August 25 (Mori and Tingle)

Orchestra (Grade 6) August 26 (Stephens and Johnson)