

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL _____

STATE BOARD MEETING DATE February 25, 2013

SUBJECT: Standards Setting – Move on When Ready

SUBMITTED BY: Vince Yanez

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Arizona Move On When Ready (MOWR) initiative is a high school education reform designed to increase student academic achievement to national and international levels, and to prepare all students for college and careers. The Move On When Ready legislation passed in 2010 and 2011 provide a framework for an education model that enables students to advance in their educational career based on demonstrated learning instead of seat time. Key provisions include the establishment of the Grand Canyon High School Diploma, a performance-based high school diploma available to students who demonstrate they are college and career ready, and the implementation of Board Examination Systems, which are coherent and aligned instructional systems set to national and internationally benchmarked academic standards that are designed to prepare students for success in college and careers. The first Grand Canyon High School Diplomas may be awarded this school year.

On January 24, 2011, the State Board of Education approved several providers of Board Examination Systems for use in Arizona, including both lower and upper division course offerings from Cambridge International Examinations and ACT QualityCore, and upper division course offerings from College Board Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-792.02 these examination systems shall “have common passing scores that are prescribed by an interstate compact on board examination systems and that are set to the level of skills and knowledge needed to succeed in college-level courses....” To assist the Board in meeting this requirement the National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) convened a technical advisory committee to establish pass points on the lower division biology and history examinations offered by ACT QualityCore and Cambridge International Examinations.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW:

That the Board adopts the proposed passing scores for the following assessments:

ACT Quality Core Chemistry
Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry
Cambridge IGCSE American History
Cambridge IGCSE Coordinated Science

ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO []