



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK /
ALBANY, NY 12234

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Office of Standards, Assessment and Reporting

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TO: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public and Nonpublic Schools
Principals of Public, Nonpublic, and Charter Schools

FROM: David Abrams

SUBJECT: Changes in the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics
Testing Program

There are two notable changes in the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Testing Program for 2010.

- The audio and PDF files that were used in 2009 to augment the printed scoring materials for the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests will not be posted on a web site. Instead, the audio files will be provided on CDs that will be delivered to schools along with the printed scoring materials. The audio files will be recorded in an MP3 format and will be playable on a PC, Mac, or CD player. PDF images will not be needed because the audios will instead direct the scoring trainer's attention to specific pages in the printed scoring materials.
- The Pythagorean Theorem will be provided in the reference sheet that is included in the first few pages of Book 2 of the Grade 7 Mathematics Test. The addition of this formula to this reference sheet is necessary because several content performance indicators pertaining to right triangles have been categorized as material taught from September–April in the Grade 7 section of the *Grades 3-8 Mathematics Testing Program Guidance* and accordingly may be tested on the Grade 7 Mathematics Test. The revised reference sheet for Grade 7 is available at: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/elintmath.html>. No changes have been made to the reference sheet for the Grade 8 Mathematics Test.

The complete schedule for the administration and scoring of these tests may be accessed at: <http://emsc.nysed.gov/osa/sched.html>. Thank you for your efforts in arranging for the administration and scoring of the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests.