16 NCAC 06D .0307 is proposed for adoption as follows:

16 NCAC 06D .0307  TEST ADMINISTRATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(a) Test Administration -- Only persons who are employed by the school system, either permanently or contractually, and have professional training in education and the state testing program shall administer secure tests to students.

   (1) The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) shall supply the tests to the local education agencies (LEAs).

   (2) LEAs shall:

      (A) account to the NCDPI for all tests received;

      (B) provide a secure, locked storage facility for all tests received;

      (C) prohibit the reproduction of any or all parts of the test; and

      (D) prohibit its employees from disclosing the content of the tests or specific items contained in the tests to persons other than authorized employees of the LEA.

(b) LEAs must monitor test administration procedures. If school officials discover any instance of improper administration and determine that the validity of the test results has been affected, they must notify the local board of education, declare a misadministration, and order the affected students to be re-tested. Only the superintendent and the LEA test coordinator have the authority to declare a test misadministration at the local level.

(c) The Superintendent of Public Instruction may conduct audits of LEAs if he/she receives written complaints that allege improper test administration, and he/she may require the re-testing of students.

(d) The NCDPI shall score or have scored all tests in the North Carolina Testing Program. In addition, the department shall provide score interpretative services to the LEAs.

(e) LEAs shall, at the beginning of each school year, provide information to students and parents or guardians advising them of the districtwide and state-mandated tests that students will be required to take during that school year. In addition, LEAs shall advise students and parents or guardians of the dates the tests will be administered and how the results from the tests will be used. Information LEAs provide to parents shall include whether the State Board of Education or the local board of education requires the test(s).

(f) LEAs shall report scores resulting from the administration of districtwide and state-mandated tests to students and parents or guardians along with available score interpretation information within thirty (30) days from generation of the score at the LEA level or receipt of the score and interpretive documentation from the NCDPI.

(g) In order to ensure adequate representation and the generalizability of the data used to develop tests and to conduct evaluation studies, selected LEAs and schools, determined through stratified random samples, shall participate in field testing and other sample testing such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and other national or international assessments as designated by the department or the SBE.

History Note: Authority G.S. 115C-12(9); 115C-174.11; 115C-174.12;

Interim Rule status conferred Eff. June 27, 2018, pursuant to S.L. 2018-114, sec. 27.(b);