Parent Talking Points for WIDA Access Test Administration

School personnel may use the following talking points to help parents understand what the WIDA Access test is and why it is administered to students:

What is the WIDA Access test?
- The WIDA Access is an English language proficiency test that measures students' the type of academic language that would occur in a classroom setting.
- The test will determine your student's language proficiency level, which helps school personnel better support your student as they learn important academic concepts and skills while learning English.
- When students reach higher levels of academic language proficiency, they will no longer need to take this test.
- The WIDA Access is administered primarily on the computer. Students' academic language ability will be measured in four domains: listening, reading, speaking and writing.
- Parents may view sample question items from each domain [here].
- Even though students participate in the WIDA Access, parents may opt out of language services after the test or at any time.
- The school will share student results from the test with parents when receive them at the end of May.

Why is the WIDA Access important?
- The federal government uses the WIDA Access to hold schools and districts accountable for providing an equitable education to multi-language learners. In other words, this assessment protects a student's civil right to an equitable education.
- A current language proficiency level from the WIDA Access allows eligible students to receive accommodations on other important assessments such as the ACT, SAT, RISE, and Utah Aspire Plus.
- Your student's WIDA Access results help current and future teachers to know what support your student needs so that he/she can be as successful as possible in school.

The WIDA Access is NOT:
- A way to track citizenship status.
- A way to target students and their families for deportation.
- Meant to isolate or punish students of a certain race or ethnicity.