

# Intradistrict Communication

DATE: Thursday, March 31, 2022

TO: All Middle School Administrators

FROM: Carolyn Gough, Administrator of Teaching and Learning  
Ben Jameson, Director of Evaluation, Research and Accountability

SUBJECT: Spring 2022 Summative Testing Reminders

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School administrators are encouraged to share the following information with their RISE-tested and Utah Aspire Plus-tested teachers.

The state's testing ethics policy may be found [here](#).

The RISE Portal may be found [here](#).

The Utah Aspire Plus Resource Center may be found [here](#).

The summative RISE testing window opened March 28<sup>th</sup> and will close May 27<sup>th</sup>. The Utah Aspire Plus window opened March 7<sup>th</sup> and will close May 13<sup>th</sup>. Here are a few general reminders:

- The 95% participation requirement, as part of the state's school accountability system, is in effect for the 2021-22 school year.
- Depending on absence trends this spring, schools should consider starting their summative testing a little earlier this year.
- All RISE scores – ELA, math, science and writing – will be available in the RISE reporting system within 24 hours after the student submits the test.
- All Utah Aspire Plus scores will be available after June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Every RISE-tested or Utah Aspire Plus-tested teacher who will be proctoring a RISE/UA+ test must be trained. Trainings are still available. Please see the [JAM memo](#) released on January 27, 2022, for remaining training dates and times.
- The state's testing ethics policy states that students whose parents have opted them out of RISE or Utah Aspire Plus testing be "provided an alternative learning activity." The alternative learning activity can be a teacher-created test similar to other tests the teacher has created throughout the year in terms of rigor and length.
- Opted out students can still be in the same room as students who are taking the RISE or Utah Aspire Plus tests.
- Teachers and schools may not provide a nonacademic award (food, assemblies, dances, etc.) for participating in or performing well on a RISE or Utah Aspire Plus test.
- Only licensed educators should proctor a RISE or Utah Aspire Plus test. If a teacher is absent when a RISE or Utah Aspire Plus test is scheduled to be administered, schools can

change the test date or have the substitute teacher cover the class of another classroom teacher who can proctor the RISE or Utah Aspire Plus test.

- All electronic devices (cell phones, smart watches, etc.) should be turned off and put in backpacks during testing.
- All education support staff who assist with administering RISE and/or Utah Aspire Plus testing in any way should have completed the testing ethics training released in a [JAM memo](#) on July 29, 2021.

Here are a few reminders specific to using RISE scores on student grades (Utah Aspire Plus will not be available to use as part of students' grades because scores will not be released until June 30<sup>th</sup>):

- Teachers may not use participation points/grades or behavior points/grades for students who take the RISE test.
- Teachers may use a student's score from RISE to *improve* the student's academic grade. It cannot hurt the student's grade.
  - Example 1: If a student earns a 3 on RISE ELA, the student must get 100% of the points possible on the assignment or assessment associated with the RISE test for their course grade. A similar arrangement would need to be made available for students who were opted out of taking the RISE test.
  - Example 2: If a student earns a 2 on RISE ELA, the student should be excused from the RISE assignment or assessment associated with the grade. The student *may not* receive a percentage of the points on the assignment or assessment associated with the RISE test for their course grade. A similar arrangement would need to be made available for students who were opted out of taking the RISE test.
  - Example 3: If a student earns a 3 or 4 on RISE math, he/she does not have to take the teacher-created math final. For students who earn a 1 or 2, they can have a second chance to show proficiency by taking the teacher's math final. A similar arrangement would need to be made available for students who were opted out of taking the RISE test.

Please contact Brooke Anderson or Ben Jameson in Evaluation, Research & Accountability with questions about RISE/Utah Aspire Plus or the testing ethics policy.