

**For Immediate Release**

**January 26, 2010**

## **STAAR to Replace TAKS**

Mr. Robert Scott, the Texas Commissioner of Education, has announced the next generation of state testing for public school students in grades 3 - 12. The tests will be called the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR). The STAAR tests will replace the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).

The STAAR tests will include 12 end-of-course assessments in addition to new assessments for students in grades 3 – 8, all mandated by the Texas Legislature. Mr. Scott pointed out that these tests will be “significantly more rigorous than previous tests.”

The new tests will be offered initially during the 2011-2012 school year. Students who are currently in the seventh grade will be the first students who will take the end-of-course tests to earn a diploma.

State ratings will be suspended in 2012, and the new rating system will be introduced in 2013.

“The Klein ISD will continue its on-going processes of planning instruction to engage students so that they will master the required curriculum based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS),” explained Ms. Susan Borg, associate superintendent of instruction and student services, when asked how the district is preparing for the STAAR tests. The STAAR, like the TAKS tests, will test students’ knowledge of the TEKS.

The Klein ISD is located in north Harris County and has more than 44,750 students in its twenty-six (26) elementary, eight (8) intermediate, and four (4) high schools. Visit the district’s Web site at [www.kleinisd.net](http://www.kleinisd.net) for additional information about the Klein Independent School District.

