

**OFFICE OF INSTRUCTIONAL ENHANCEMENT AND INTERNAL OPERATIONS**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**May 17-18, 2012**

**OFFICE OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

25. Approval to modify the Mississippi Writing Assessment Program (MWAP)

In an effort to better prepare students for the rigorous writing requirements of the Common Core State Standards, the Mississippi Writing Assessment Program will transition to a formative assessment process that informs instructional practice. The formative assessment will no longer be a graduation requirement in grade 10, but will be utilized in grades 4 through 12 to assist students in achieving rigorous college and career readiness.

NCS Pearson's Write to Learn® (WTL) formative writing assessment program will be implemented during the 2012-2013 school year and will be utilized through the 2014-15 academic year at no cost to the Mississippi Department of Education. WTL is a formative writing application that delivers writing tasks online and scores them using artificial intelligence. WTL will provide specific feedback to teachers to support ongoing writing instruction.

Recommendation: Approval