

## **Family Notification Idaho Standards Achievement Tests Alternate (ISAT-Alt) Assessment**

Dear Families.

### **Overview of the ISAT- Alt**

All Idaho students are required to participate fully in the Idaho State assessment system. Various federal and state statutes and regulations exist that require all students to be assessed to ensure that all students receive an appropriate public education. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1997 was reinforced in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) in requiring statewide assessment of all students. Idaho currently assesses students on the ISAT and ISAT-Alt in grades 3-10 in: Reading, Language Usage and Mathematics as well as grades 5, 7, and 10 in Science.

All students with disabilities must be assessed on one of two assessments available in Idaho: the Idaho Standards Achievement Tests (ISAT) with or without accommodations or the ISAT Alternate (ISAT-Alt).

The ISAT-Alt is designed to assess students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who meet very specific guidelines. The ISAT-Alt is aligned to measure the Idaho Content Standards.

The Individualized Education Program (IEP) team determines how the student participates. The IEP team decides, for each content area, whether the student takes the ISAT without accommodations, the ISAT with accommodations or the ISAT-Alt.

The ISAT-Alt is a portfolio assessment for which evidence of learning is collected in each of the four content areas to demonstrate student learning of the state content standards. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Alisha Pope