



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Oregon Students Show Gains in English Language Arts**

*Oregon school districts receive results of statewide assessment*

(Salem, Ore.) – Oregon school districts have received the [results of the Smarter Balanced assessments](#) taken by students in grades three through eight, plus high school. Overall scores remain largely flat as compared to previous years, although the results show gains in English Language Arts (ELA) over the previous year.

“Annual tests give us a snapshot of student learning, but there is more we should be doing to give teachers the tools to target complex thinking in students,” Oregon Department of Education Director Colt Gill said. “Shorter, more focused testing throughout the year can give teachers insights into activities that can help students think and work out problems. That is how we get better results.”

Every grade level increased ELA scores over the 2016-17 results. One highlight of the test results is the performance of American Indian/Alaska native (AI/AN) students, the only student group scoring higher than two years ago in both ELA and Math.

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