

## TESTING TIPS & TIDBITS NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2018

### Upcoming Events

#### 2018 BRATS “THANK YOUR LUCKY STAARS” CTC ACADEMY

The Bayou City Region Association of Testing Specialists (BRATS) is inviting all Campus Test Coordinators (CTCs) to the first annual BRATS CTC Academy on **August 1, 2018**. This professional development is designed for new, not-so-new, and experienced CTCs and will include presenters like College Board and TestHound. Lunch will be sponsored by TestHound, and CTCs will be awarded with a professional development certificate at the end of the day. Please note that this will not be a day of only STAAR based sessions. The sessions will be geared more towards “testing” on a broader scale.

**DATE:** August 1, 2018

**LOCATION:** Summer Creek High School (14000 Weckford Blvd., Houston, TX, 77044)

**TIME:** 7:45 AM – 3:30 PM

**COST:** FREE

### Hot off the Press

#### 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

The Commissioner of Education, Mike Morath, announced on July 17, 2018 that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has awarded more than \$64 million in 21st Century Community Learning Centers grants to 51 entities that will serve students in 371 centers across the state. This federally-funded program (also called Texas Afterschool Centers on Education or Texas ACE), establishes centers that operate before and after school, as well as during the summer. These centers provide students in grades K-12 opportunities to access academic enrichment, tutorial services, and a broad array of additional programs and activities, such as physical fitness, nutrition, science, the arts, internships and dual credit.

### Mark Your Calendars

#### CBE ORDERING WINDOW # 1

**August 20 - August 24:** 2018-19 Credit-By-Exam (CBE #1) Ordering Window #1

- Memo will post the week of August 13<sup>th</sup>

### TEST CORRECTION WINDOW INFORMATION

Test Administration	Score Code Changes Due Date
2018 May STAAR 5 & 8 Retest	<b>June 13, 2019</b>
2018 May STAAR grades 3 – 8	<b>June 20, 2019</b>
2018 April STAAR grades 4 & 7 Writing	<b>June 27, 2019</b>

### Spotlight

The Student Assessment Department has a new Data Specialist Team that we would like to welcome! They will be a critical part of ensuring that campuses use data to drive instruction. We will be introducing each member in our upcoming newsletter.

### FAQ

**Q:** Will all asylees and refugees who are in years one through five of enrollment in U.S. schools be excluded from accountability in 2018?

**A:** No. There is no change to the exclusions applied to asylees, refugees, and students with interrupted formal education (SIFE). Only unschooled asylees, unschooled refugees, and SIFEs will be excluded from accountability until their sixth year of enrollment in U.S. schools.



If you have questions, please, email assessment at [Assessment@houstonisd.org](mailto:Assessment@houstonisd.org). Use “Newsletter FAQ” in the subject.

We will answer all general questions in this section of our newsletter.

### Contact Information

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