



May 9, 2012

Dear Board Member,

We are pleased to provide the agenda and briefing materials for the May 17-19 meeting of the National Assessment Governing Board. The meeting will be in San Antonio, Texas at the Marriott Plaza Hotel located at 555 S. Alamo Street, close to the Alamo itself in the center of the city.

Our Board member from San Antonio, State Senator Leticia Van de Putte, will be our local host. Her district, with a population well over 600,000, includes both the hotel and the Alamo. We appreciate her help in making arrangements and her warm hospitality.

At the start of the general session Friday morning the Board will hear from Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott. At lunch the Board will have a closed session discussion of staff recommendations for new achievement levels in writing. After lunch, former Mississippi Governor and former Board member, Ronnie Musgrove, will address the Board on the 12th Grade Preparedness Commission, which he heads. This will be followed by a briefing and full Board discussion on the 12th grade preparedness reporting. The Board will also hear from a panel of eminent demographers on changes in the U.S. student population and discuss implications for NAEP.

On Saturday morning we have scheduled a full Board discussion on two important items: the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on NAEP Parent Engagement, which is also an action item, and NAEP and the Common Core State Standards and Assessments. Both items will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting, to which all members are invited on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. Later Saturday morning the Board will take action on the writing achievement levels discussed in closed session on Friday and a release plan for the 2011 Writing Report Card.

This promises to be a full and productive meeting. If you need further assistance in your preparations, please let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cornelia S. Orr".

Cornelia S. Orr
Executive Director