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Executive Director



## Texas Association of School Administrators

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March 4, 2015

Michael L. Williams  
Commissioner of Education  
Texas Education Agency  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Commissioner Williams:

On behalf of the Texas Association of School Administrators, I urge you to provide relief from the accountability provisions associated with the new grades 3-8 math TEKS for this school year. A "report only" or "hold harmless" provision for the current school year will be extremely helpful to students, teachers, parents, and school districts.

The State Board of Education members' February 13 letter clearly explains the rationale for a transition period while districts implement the new math standards and address the gaps in content from grade level to grade level. We are greatly appreciative of the Agency's assistance in providing additional resources to assist teachers, parents, and students during this transition.

Your willingness to engage in conversations with superintendents regarding the grade advancement requirements for Grades 5 and 8 Math STAAR, and the corresponding change, has been well received. We strongly encourage you to take another major step forward and support the recommendations presented by the State Board of Education members last month.

Sincerely,

Johnny L. Veselka  
Executive Director