

### **From the Superintendent:**

Each year, one of the tasks that must be undertaken is the administration of the Kansas State Assessments. In the past teachers and administrators were able to access the assessment results as soon as they were completed. The past two years the instant access to results has not been available due to a dramatic shift in the assessment format. The assessment has changed from a format that was primarily multiple choice/best guess to being much more interactive and performance/application based.

The Kansas State Department of Education is now in the process of compiling student assessment data leading up to the public release of assessment results. This is a multi-step process that will conclude with the release of State and Building Report Cards in early to mid-December. During the first couple of weeks of October, Test Coordinators and school administration will have the opportunity to review the preliminary data for accuracy. There will be an opportunity to make any necessary corrections prior to the end of October. In order for KSDE and local school districts to have reliable, valid and usable data, it will be extremely important to examine the preliminary data for accuracy. By the end of November, local school districts and building will have the opportunity to preview their Building Report Card. The State Board of Education will be receiving the information related to the 2014-15 State Report Card, after which time, the information will be made available to the public.

The thing for patrons to keep in mind as assessment results are released is that we cannot make any comparison of the results of the 2014-15 assessments to the results of past assessments. The assessments given in the spring of 2015 were not only in a much different format; they were designed and written to test a much different set of standards. At this point, I have not seen any preliminary data so I do not know what the results will look like. It is very likely that it may at first appear that we did not perform as well as past years. No matter what our assessment data looks like, it will in no way affect our accreditation status. The 2015 state assessment results will be used to establish baseline data only and provides a starting point upon which decisions for academic improvement will be built. As always, I continue to be very proud of our students' academic performance and achievement as well as the outstanding work our faculty does to ensure that your children are well prepared for their future.