



April 4, 2013

To the Administrator Addressed:

This communication is intended to provide current CSCOPE districts with additional detail and understanding of the process for public posting of CSCOPE lessons.

### General Communication

The Texas Education Service Center Curriculum Collaborative (TESCCC) has been working diligently with the CSCOPE technology provider to provide public access to CSCOPE lessons. The CSCOPE site will include a new feature that allows parents and members of the general public to access CSCOPE lessons without having to enter a username and password. CSCOPE lessons accessible to the public will be the same lessons provided to districts for the 2013-14 school year, with the exception of material that may be used for grading or student assessment, such as answer keys and any information related to Performance Indicators. The new public access feature is scheduled for launch in early April, 2013.

### Home Page (login):

When the public lesson access feature is enabled, the home page ([www.mycscope.us](http://www.mycscope.us)) will accommodate a Quick Search for CSCOPE lessons and Texas Standards on the public site. Registered users of the CSCOPE system will need to click a "District User Login" button in the top right corner of the site to then enter their existing log-in credentials and access their district's CSCOPE site. Information about the changes to the main page and user login is currently available in the "CSCOPE News" section of the site.

### What CSCOPE lesson content will NOT be available for public viewing?

Lessons available for public viewing will be dynamically linked to the actual CSCOPE lessons in the site provided to districts. As noted earlier, material that may be used for grading or student assessment will not be available for public viewing. Below is a list of lesson content not available for public viewing:

- **Performance Indicators.** There will be a generic statement inserted in the public site anywhere a Performance Indicator is listed that states:  
*"Performance Indicators are authentic learning tasks or projects that provide evidence of student learning. Therefore, these tasks or projects may be used for grading purposes. Please consult your child's teacher to understand how Performance Indicators may be used in this lesson."*
- **Attachments serving as answer keys or part of Performance Indicators.** There will be a generic statement in the Attachments section of the public site that states:  
*"All attachments associated with this lesson are referenced in the body of the lesson. Due to considerations for grading or student assessment, attachments that are connected with Performance Indicators or serve as answer keys are available in the district site and are not accessible on the public website."*

### Additional information embedded in the public lesson site

Additional clarification statements will be provided on select portions of each CSCOPE lesson for help in understanding the design and intent of the CSCOPE lesson template. Below is a list of other generic statements used on the public lesson site:

- **General Statement under lesson title.**

*"This lesson is one approach to teaching the State Standards associated with this unit. Districts are encouraged to customize this lesson by supplementing with district-approved resources, materials, and activities to best meet the needs of learners. The duration for this lesson is only a recommendation, and districts may modify the time frame to meet students' needs. To better understand how your district may be implementing CSCOPE lessons, please contact your child's teacher."*

- **General Statement in the TEKS section of the lesson.**

*"The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) listed below are the standards adopted by the State Board of Education, which are required by Texas law. Any standard that has a strike-through (e.g., ~~sample phrase~~) indicates that portion of the standard is taught in a previous or subsequent unit."*

- **Pop-up message for any external link accessed within the dynamic CSCOPE lesson.**

*"You are leaving the CSCOPE site! Websites are subject to changes and may have associated links that are neither referenced nor approved by CSCOPE. District personnel are encouraged to preview and vet all websites, resources, and references in accordance with district policy."*

### Changes for posted 2013-14 versions of CSCOPE lessons

As part of its ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, CSCOPE provides districts with updated content every school year. In previous years, CSCOPE would begin releasing updated versions of lessons throughout the summer for the upcoming school year. In an effort to increase transparency of CSCOPE with parents and the public, CSCOPE has moved this process up approximately two months in order to begin posting lessons early for the 2013-14 school year.

So what are the most notable changes in CSCOPE related to public posting of lessons? Based on feedback and recommendations from members of the State Board of Education and the TESCCC, resources and references that are not critical to each lesson (primarily external web links) will be removed for 2013-14. Districts will be encouraged to work with their supporting education service center for assistance with resources and references that may be useful for instructional planning and support. This change will go into effect for 2013-14 versions posted to districts and the public, beginning in early April.

It is also important to note that when English versions of lessons in Math, Science, and Social Studies for 2013-14 are published to districts and the public, the Spanish translations of those content areas will be unpublished to districts. Based on a commitment by the TESCCC to increase Spanish language support in CSCOPE, work is currently underway to provide additional Spanish-translated curriculum content for Grades K-5 Matemáticas, Ciencias, and Estudios Sociales. Results are also being processed from a statewide survey regarding more thorough Spanish translation of K-5 lesson content in CSCOPE for the future. More information on enhanced Matemáticas, Ciencia, and Estudios Sociales content and posting will be provided this spring.

### Time line for posting CSCOPE lessons on the public site

A more detailed time line for public posting of CSCOPE lessons will be provided on the CSCOPE site. 2013-14 versions of CSCOPE Math lessons will be loaded first with ELAR, SLAR, and Science lessons following. For each of these content areas, CSCOPE will load 1<sup>st</sup> six weeks lessons and continue to roll out subsequent six weeks lessons according to the posted time line. It is important to note that these 2013-14 versions will replace the existing lessons in the site. Lessons that may be in use for a current six weeks will be loaded after the designated time period is completed (please refer to standard CSCOPE YAGs for applicable six-week time frames).

The TESCCC is working with the State Board of Education for a review of Social Studies lessons; therefore, information on posting of 2013-14 versions of CSCOPE Social Studies lessons will be forthcoming based on the timeline set by the State Board of Education for the review.

Finally, curriculum components (YAGs, VADs/TCDs, TVDs, and IFDs) currently posted on the CSCOPE site are to remain active for the 2013-14 school year; therefore, district staff may use these existing curriculum components for 13-14 planning. The only exception to note is physics, which is undergoing a previously planned and more comprehensive revision due to feedback and new information from the state.

The TESCCC would like to thank you for your continued partnership and support of CSCOPE, as well as your patience in efforts to enhance public understanding and access.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wade Labay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wade" and last name "Labay" clearly distinguishable.

Wade Labay, Ed.D.  
Director, State CSCOPE