

Official Notices

March 1998 — Vol 7 No 2

IMPORTANT

The information below is the Board's official advice to schools of the decisions it has taken, and should be acted upon as such. Please ensure the *Official Notices* are circulated to all teaching staff.

Topics covered by Official Notices in this issue



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Correction to 1996 HSC Examination Statistics

**BOS
5/98**

The mapping points used in the scaling of large candidature courses were changed from 1996 as advised in *Board Bulletin* BOS 66/94, Vol 3 No 7. The description of the large candidature scaling in the 1996 HSC Examination Statistics book, issued to schools in 1997, does not reflect this change. The dot points on page 56, in the paragraph commencing *Other mapping points were inserted ...* should read:

- the median scaled mark would be 60;
- (the second dot point is unchanged);
- approximately 25% of candidates would be awarded marks of 70 or more;
- approximately 75% of candidates would be awarded marks of 50 or more; and
- no more than about 5% of candidates would be awarded marks of less than 30.

Contact no: (02) 9367 8239, Garry Richards
Measurement and Research Services
richards@boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au



1998 Higher School Certificate — Dates for Practical Submissions and Itinerant Marking of Performances

**BOS
6/98**

Schools and Institutes of TAFE should have received notification of the dates for practical submissions and itinerant marking of performances.

Principals' attention is drawn to the differentiation between completion and submission dates for practical works/projects. The completion dates are the dates on which students must stop work on their works/projects. In all cases the completion date will be a Sunday. Students must have their works/project at school on the Monday morning following the completion date for certification by the class teacher and principal. Certification forms for this purpose will be sent to schools to arrive by the completion dates.

Submission dates are the dates that works/projects must be received at the Office of the Board of Studies. This applies to subjects where the works/projects are corporately marked, that is, Agriculture 3 Unit, Design and Technology 3 Unit, Drama, Food Technology 3 Unit, Music (Board), Rural Technology, Society and Culture 2 Unit and Visual Arts. The specific dates for submission of these works will be forwarded to schools under separate cover and will generally be one or two weeks later than the completion dates.

Contact no: (02) 9367 8109
(02) 9367 8259



Languages Other Than English — Exemption from Background Speaker Status

**BOS
7/98**

Application for exemption from Background Speaker status

Five HSC Languages (Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean and Malay) currently have separate Background Speaker courses for students identified as such in terms of the Board's eligibility rules. (These rules were first outlined in *Board Bulletin* BOS 91/94 Vol 3 No 9 and are also to be found in Section 11.12 of the *ACE Manual* and pp 329–330 of the Stage 6 *Languages Other Than English KLA Handbook*.)

Initial determination for students studying through their home school/TAFE campus

Within these rules, the initial determination of course eligibility is delegated to principals/TAFE supervisors who make a decision on behalf of the Office of the Board of Studies. The application for exemption from Background Speaker status can be found in the *ACE Manual*, Section 11.12, and in the Stage 6 *Languages Other Than English KLA Handbook*. Having a student complete sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 of this application should assist principals/TAFE supervisors in arriving at their initial decision.

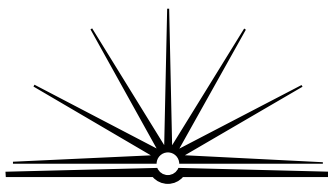
Initial determination for students studying through the Open High School or the Saturday School of Community Languages

In the case of students wishing to study one of the above languages through the Open High School (OHS) or the Saturday School of Community Languages (SSCL), a copy of the special cover page (provided in this Official Notice) should be completed, in addition to the other information pages already printed in the *ACE Manual* Section 11.12 or the Stage 6 *Languages Other Than English KLA Handbook*, p 332. The home school or TAFE campus should forward these documents, together with an enrolment form, to the principal of the OHS or the SSCL, as required. The principal of the OHS or the SSCL will then make the initial eligibility determination.

Students wishing to appeal the initial determination

Students who are deemed to be Background Speakers by their principal/TAFE supervisor may appeal this decision using the application for exemption mechanism. In such cases the Office of the Board of Studies will review the decision. For an exemption to be considered by the Office of the Board of Studies, all relevant information considered in making the original determination, that is, the completed application including cover page(s), should be forwarded, together with a statement from the principal/TAFE supervisor, to the Inspector, Languages, Office of the Board of Studies, GPO BOX 5300 Sydney 2001 or faxed on (02) 9367 8476.

Effective: Immediately
Contact: Graham Sims (02) 9367 8152
Harry Oppermann (02) 9367 8280
Hilary Dixon (02) 9367 8304
David Harland (02) 9367 8180



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF STUDIES
NEW SOUTH WALES

APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM BACKGROUND SPEAKER STATUS

(in Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean and Malay)

For students wishing to study through THE OPEN HIGH SCHOOL or
THE SATURDAY SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY LANGUAGES

1. Name of Applicant: Mr/Ms
2. Home Address:.....
3. School Attended:
4. School Address:
5. Telephone Number: (school) Fax: (school).....
6. Year in which you intend to sit the HSC:.....
7. Year in which you are currently enrolled (eg Year 11):.....
8. Month and year arrived in Australia (if appropriate):.....
9. LANGUAGE APPLIED FOR (please circle):

CHINESE INDONESIAN JAPANESE KOREAN MALAY

For completion by principal

A determination has been made, in terms of the Board's eligibility rules, that this student is a Background Speaker of the language indicated above.

Signature (as appropriate)

Principal, The Open High School

or

Principal, The Saturday School of Community Languages.....

Please ensure that all details in this application including sections 1 to 4 are completed and that any supporting documentation (as appropriate) is provided.

The completed application will be considered in the first instance, together with the forwarded enrolment application, by the principal of the Open High School or the principal of the Saturday School of Community Languages (as appropriate).

Appeals against a determination by the principal of the OHS or SSCL may be forwarded to:

The Inspector, Languages
Office of the Board of Studies
GPO Box 5300, Sydney, NSW, 2001
Fax (02) 9367 8476
Phone (02) 9367 8152 or (02) 9367 8280

For eligibility rules relating to Background Speakers, please refer to the ACE Manual 11.12 or the Languages Other Than English Stage 6 KLA Handbook, pp 329-330.



Spanish 2/3 Unit Speaking Skills Examination Specifications **BOS 8/98**

The Board wishes to remind teachers of Spanish of the changes made to the examination specifications for the Spanish 2/3 Unit Speaking Skills Examination (*KLA Handbook*, p 297) and notified in Official Notice BOS 55/97. Specimen questions are available to schools on request. Schools should fax their request to Information Services Branch on (02) 9262 6270.

Effective: 1998 HSC Examination
Contact nos: Hilary Dixon (02) 9367 8304
 Graham Sims (02) 9367 8152
 Harry Oppermann (02) 9367 8280

The language courses to which the notification form applies are: Arabic (2 Unit Extended Level), Armenian, Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Filipino, Hindi, Hungarian, Khmer, Korean (2 Unit Extended Level), Latvian, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Maltese, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian (2 Unit Extended Level), Serbian, Slovenian, Swedish, Turkish (2 Unit Extended Level) and Ukrainian.

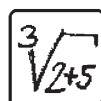
Contact no: (02) 9367 8109
 (02) 9367 8224



NAFLaSSL Languages — Notification of Oral Report Topics 1998 Higher School Certificate **BOS 9/98**

Schools, Institutes of TAFE and the Saturday School of Community Languages with students enrolled in the NAFLaSSL language courses should have received a notification form to be returned to the Office of the Board of Studies by Monday, 20 April 1998 advising of the topics prepared by students for the presentation of the Conversation, Report and Discussion component of their 1998 exam.

The two topics notified should be written on the form in English and must be precisely named. The two must be substantially different from one another.



Stage 5 Mathematics Syllabus — Standard Course **BOS 10/98**

(i) The formula for the volume of wood in a tree (p 61) is incorrect. Advice obtained from State Forests (NSW) indicates that the added constant '+9.86' is misleading and should be omitted. The correct formula should read:

$$\text{volume (of log)} = (0.4724d^2h) \text{ cm}^3$$

with all measurements taken in centimetres.

(ii) The reference to Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) (p 127) is incorrect. Information obtained from the Roads and Traffic Authority states that the correct designation is Blood Alcohol Concentration, which is measured in grams of alcohol per 100mL blood sample.

Cumulative List of all Official Notices to date for 1998

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1998 HSC Examinations — Changes to the layout of the Visual Arts 2/3 Unit Plates Booklet.....	BOS 1/98	Vol 7 No 1
Approved Scientific Calculators — Higher School Certificate Examinations 1998	BOS 2/98	Vol 7 No 1
Chinese Examinations — 2/3 Unit and 3 Unit Chinese (non-Background Speakers)	BOS 3/98	Vol 7 No 1
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Creative Arts

1998 HSC Examinations — Changes to the layout of the Visual Arts 2/3 Unit Plates Booklet (see BOS 1/98 Vol 7 No 1)

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Mathematics

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