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**MEMO FROM CUSD OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT**

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**DATE:** APRIL 13, 2015

**TO:** PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS ATTENDING CUSD

**FROM:** DR. MATTHEW STROM

**RE:** ARIZONA OPT-OUT

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Administration of the AzMERIT, a standardized assessment in English Language Arts and mathematics, is *required*. Chandler Unified School District has a responsibility to administer the assessment from one of our primary funding sources, Arizona Department of Education, and one of our secondary funding sources, United States Department of Education. Failure to administer the exams, as required, could have negative consequences for CUSD and CUSD schools. Parents, and students, must realize the following:

- 1) CUSD is required to administer the AzMERIT exam to students. This requirement is established through the ADE and the USDOE. A student that misses exam administration on its scheduled date but attends school on the make-up day(s) will have the exam administered at that time. A site that does not test 95% of their required students will have accountability consequences issued by the ADE via the USDOE.
- 2) The Office of the Arizona Attorney General does have an opinion published on whether parents can opt their children out of state standardized assessments. This [letter](#) specifically addresses A.R.S. § 15-102.

If there is a question, or concern, regarding test administration requirements, including “opt-out”, contact the ADE at 602-542-5031. If there is a question about the legal requirements to which CUSD must adhere please contact 480-812-7018.