

DC to Suspend Test Scores in Teacher Evaluations

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS JUNE 19, 2014, 2:34 P.M. E.D.T.

WASHINGTON — The District of Columbia school system won't include students' standardized test scores in teacher evaluations for the upcoming academic year as it adjusts to new tests that adhere to Common Core academic standards.

Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson announced the hold on using the scores to evaluate teachers' performance on Thursday.

The District was among the first jurisdictions to evaluate teachers using that factor. It has fired hundreds of teachers under the system.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation recently joined the nation's two largest teachers' unions in calling for a moratorium on evaluating teachers based on Common Core tests. The foundation has spent more than \$200 million implementing Common Core standards.

The U.S. Education Department has not backed the idea of a moratorium.