

Office of Assessment Weekly Update #6 September 8, 2016

This week's update is coming a bit earlier than usual with a few changes in the format.

New for SY 16-17: Weekly updates will be archived on the SD DOE website:

<http://doe.sd.gov/Assessment/weekly.aspx> . Please look at the prior updates for critical information about student reports and setting up user accounts in the various systems. The [SD DOE Assessment website](#) and assessment portals also remain important sources of information.

Assessment Q & A: Beginning this week, we will answer one frequently asked question about state assessments in the weekly update.

Question: *Why can't teams of people come in to administer state tests like NAEP?*

Answer: NAEP touches only a sampling of students across the state, produces no student, school, or district level data, and is administered for a very different purpose than state tests. It takes multiple students to complete a full assessment for NAEP as each student takes only a small portion of the test. The state assessments are intended for all students, are more comprehensive, and are linked to the state standards and instruction in the core content areas. State assessments serve as tool to ensure all students are making progress towards state standards, and those adults who work with our students on a daily basis are better suited to ensure that students are engaged and connected to the assessments than are a team of relative strangers.

South Dakota Assessment Portal (SDAP) Update:

End of Course/Course Equivalency Tests and Benchmark Assessments are on the move and will reside in the District Secure program in SDAP beginning tomorrow. All item banks and test forms have been added and Benchmark assessments will be available for schools to use at any time. The End of Course/Course Equivalency tests still require a current waiver to use and a signed test security agreement. [Test security agreements](#) should be completed online prior to test administration. For more information and support, please contact Chris Booth, Christina.booth@state.sd.us.

Upcoming Events

Smarter Balanced System Webinars: There are three scheduled webinars on specific elements of the Smarter Balanced system. Dates, times, webinar descriptions and the link for the first webinar are below. Pre-registration is not needed. Webinars will be recorded and posted to the assessment website within 10 days after the webinar. **For more details on all the webinars and directions for attending, please go to [Workshops](#) on the Assessment main page.**

Technology Preparation for Online Testing : September 12, 2016, 2-3 pm central. This training provides an overview of the technology requirements needed to prepare for the administration of the online Smarter Balanced Assessment.

1. Please join my meeting.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/890658717>

2. Use your microphone and speakers (VoIP) - a headset is recommended. Or, call in using your telephone.

Dial +1 (408) 650-3123

Access Code: 890-658-717

Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting

Meeting ID: 890-658-717

Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) September 19, 2016, 2-3 pm central. This training provides an overview of the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) system. After viewing this training, you should become familiar with managing user accounts, managing student test settings, creating appeals, and creating rosters that can be used to view test data in the Online Reporting System.

Interim Assessment System: September 27, 2016 2 – 3 pm central. The training will provide an overview of the Test Delivery System (TDS), Teacher Hand Scoring System (THSS) and the Interim Assessment Viewing Application (AVA). After viewing the training, you should be able to administer interim assessments and understand the basics of the AVA and Hand Scoring Systems. Further information on the use of the Interim Assessments will be covered during the October 7, 2016 workshop.

Workshops

Interim Assessment Workshop: Oct 7, 2016 MacKay Building, Pierre, SD Room: Library commons 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. The workshop will provide specific details on how to set up the administration of interim assessment as well how to use the Teacher Handscoring System. Participants will learn how to use the Interim Blueprints to decide which blocks can inform instruction as well as how to interpret the various reports available once Interim Assessments are scored.

Fall Assessment Workshops: the week of October 17-21 across the state
These workshops will focus on connecting student data, assessments, curriculum and instruction. This has been designed to provide some proactive tips to address Frequently Asked Questions from last year's assessment administration, and includes information that may be valuable to a variety of education professionals including: assessment directors, infinite campus contacts, curriculum directors, and administrators. Teams of three to four from a district are encouraged to attend and there will be an opportunity for participants to **develop a plan of shared responsibility for assessment administration**. More details on the specific date and location near your district are found in Upcoming Workshops and Webinars area of the website <http://doe.sd.gov/Assessment/> . Registration is required through [GoSignMeUp!](#) for "Fall Assessment and Accountability Workshop" under Assessment.

NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress): NAEP for reading and math will be administered to most public school 4th and 8th grade students in 2017. Schools in the NAEP sample have been notified but if there are questions, please contact Mike Rickert, Michael.Rickert@state.sd.us.

Smarter Balanced Updates:

Tip: Register for email alerts for Smarter Balanced on the portal main page. Registration link is at the top of the banner above the photo of the Badlands. This will alert you to new announcements and updates to the system.

The interim assessments are online. Students have been loaded into TIDE. If your school is planning on using the interim assessments and students are missing in TIDE, check with your Campus or NASIS coordinator regarding uploads to the state edition of Campus. Students must be in the state edition of Campus before they can appear in TIDE. For schools not using Infinite Campus as their district student information system, enrollment changes will not be in TIDE until you have completed a Campus upload.

Student Reports: Overviews of reporting requirements are posted under [Parent Communication](#) on the DOE assessment website. At this time, just achievement reports are available. Student growth reports for students in grades 4- 8 in 2015-16 with two years of test scores will be distributed to school districts in a

secure manner mid to late September and will be optional to send home. More details will follow when growth reports are available.

- DSTEP Science/Science Alt, MSAA and SBAC reports are available in [SDAP](#) in the Reporting area. [Help Guides](#) provide directions for accessing and printing reports.
- Smarter Balanced student reports are also available through the Smarter Balanced Online Reporting System (ORS). Directions for batch printing can be found on the [Smarter Balanced page](#). With the recent updates to ORS, the reports have a new look and the directions for printing have been updated.
- MSAA student, school and district reports will be available on the [MSAA](#) portal from August 19 – September 19. More details on accessing the reports is posted on the [MSAA](#) page. Feel free to contact Ben Morrison, ben.morrison@state.sd.us, for more details.

DOE Staff Contacts:

Jan Martin, Jan.Martin@state.sd.us, is the administrator of the assessment office, and the primary contact for the Smarter Balanced summative assessment system.

Joe Moran, Joe.Moran@state.sd.us, oversees work with the Digital Library and Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments.

Mike Rickert, Michael.Rickert@state.sd.us, oversees home school testing and serves as the NAEP State Coordinator. More details on what test will be provided by SD DOE for grades 4, 8, and 11 will be forthcoming.

Chris Booth, Christina.Booth@state.sd.us, oversees the Science Assessments and services provided within the South Dakota Assessment Portal (eMetric).