

**Office of Assessment Weekly Update #13 Nov. 10, 2016**

Good afternoon all, and good luck to the districts going to the state football finals.

There are several critical updates for this week that need your attention. Please be sure to share the information with the appropriate staff in your district.

**ACCESS 2.0 and ACCESS Alt** There are several updates for ACCESS 2.0 that are related to preparation for test administration:

1. District coordinators with a WIDA AMS account should have received a broadcast email on Nov. 1, 2016 with details for preparing for the assessment window. The email can be found at [ACCESS 2.0 Broadcast Emails](#).
2. The student data file will be pulled on **Dec. 1, 2016** so please be sure to have all the data correct in Campus by that time. Refer to the [Planning for 2016-17 power point](#) for specifics on the fields needed for LEP students and alternate assessment students.
3. Workshops for ACCESS 2.0 have been scheduled and registration is available through [GoSignMeUp!](#)

The workshops are scheduled the week of Jan. 16, 2017 at the following locations:

January 17, 2017	Lake Area Technical Institute	Watertown, SD
January 18, 2017	University Center – Avera Hall	Sioux Falls, SD
January 19, 2017	Cedar Shores Resort	Oacoma, SD
January 20, 2017	Western Dakota Tech	Rapid City, SD

**South Dakota Science and South Dakota Science Alt assessment Update** The Office of Assessment is pleased to announce that Questar Assessment, Inc. will continue to be the provider of the South Dakota Science (SDS) and Science Alt (SDS Alt) field test assessments for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. The assessment will be online using the same computer interface as last year. The test will be given to students in grades 5, 8, and 11 as in the past and the test window is April 3 – May 5, 2017. The test is based on the [Disciplinary Core Ideas Progressions](#) and the grade level standards found in the **2015 South Dakota Science Standards** with an even distribution of items from Physical Science, Life Science and Earth and Space Science. The test itself will look and feel very similar to last year's online Science assessment.

**Educator opportunity for South Dakota Science Development:** The South Dakota Department of Education will be conducting an item review committee meeting with South Dakota educators on **December 7** at the East Dakota Education Cooperative in Sioux Falls. Science educators and educators of special populations are needed to review new content for future South Dakota Science assessments. Representatives from the state's science assessment partners Questar Assessment Inc. and WestEd will be working with the educator committee to review the new content for accuracy, grade-level appropriateness, alignment to South Dakota's science standards, and potential bias and sensitivity concerns. A key part of the development of the South Dakota Science assessment is the inclusion of educators who understand the students, curriculum and the people of South Dakota. The inclusion of South Dakota educators makes this test truly South Dakota's test. The application for the work group is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3FRC2XD> and needs to be completed by interested staff no later than November 17.

### **MSAA and South Dakota Science Alternate**

Students eligible for alternate assessments must have the **Participate in Alt. Assessment** box checked in the Special Ed Field in Infinite Campus. As your district is working to validate your Special Education child count data, it is a good time to also check if this box is correctly marked. A preliminary pull of alternate assessment participants will be done in early December to verify that all the schools with alternate assessment students are in the MSAA organization file.

### **Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments and Digital Library**

**Interim Assessments:** Due to popular demand, another session of the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment workshop has been scheduled for **Nov. 29, 2016** from 10 am to 4 pm in Pierre.

Registration is through [GoSignMeUp!](#) Attendees need to bring a laptop or other portable device with version 9 secure browser installed. Please work with your tech staff and check the [Secure Browsers](#) card on the Smarter Balanced portal for information on the different updated browsers.

**Digital Library:** Two new playlists connecting Interim Assessments and the Digital Library have been added to the Features Resources. Grade 5 Fractions and Grade 8 Research are new resources available to registered users. More playlists linking Interim Assessments and the Digital Library will be added later this fall. Access to the Digital Library requires an user account that is not the same as TIDE. To get access for your staff, contact Joe Moran for assistance.

### **DOE Office of Assessment Staff Contacts:**

Jan Martin, [Jan.Martin@state.sd.us](mailto: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](mailto:Joe.Moran@state.sd.us), oversees work with the Digital Library and Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments.

Mike Rickert, [Michael.Rickert@state.sd.us](mailto: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](mailto:Christina.Booth@state.sd.us), oversees the Science Assessments and services provided within the South Dakota Assessment Portal (eMetric).