Assessment News Alert- June 27, 2025

This message was sent to assessment coordinators in public school districts and several approved programs and non-public school systems.

Secure Browser for 2025-26 School Year

- The Secure Browser Version 18.0 is now available for Windows, MacOS, and Linux. **This secure browser is for Cambium assessments (math, ELA, science, and science-Alt) in grades 3-8.** This version of the Secure Browser will replace version 17.0 on all supported devices for the 2025-26 school year. For questions or assistance regarding the Secure Browser, please contact the South Dakota Assessments Help Desk.

Assessment Coordinator Changes

- If your district will have a new assessment coordinator for the 2025-26 school year, please complete this **survey**.

Opportunity: Transforming Assessment Systems

- Districts are often asked to add assessments to meet stakeholder needs—but rarely have time to evaluate whether those assessments are truly serving their purpose. To support a more thoughtful approach, the **South Dakota Department of Education** and the **Center for Assessment** invite districts to send a team to a **2-day, in-person Assessment System Review Summit** in fall 2025 or spring 2026. These hands-on sessions will help teams analyze students' assessment experiences and create a more balanced, purposeful system.
    Learn more at one of two informational webinars (no registration required):
    - August 6, 2025: 3-4pm CT → Zoom Link
    - August 13, 2025: 10-11am CT → Zoom Link
    Attending a webinar or requesting the recording is required to apply. Districts will be selected by early September. Potential summit locations include: Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Pierre, Aberdeen, Watertown, Mitchell, Mobridge-Pollock, Lemmon, and Todd County.
    Please share the **attached flyer (or use this hyperlink)** with others who may be interested. For questions, contact Carla Evans (cevans@nciea.org) or Caroline Wylie (ecwylie@nciea.org).