



State Board of Education

Workshop: July 21, 2016



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Assessment and ESSA Updates



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2016-2017
Assessment Update

Key Concerns and Considerations

- **Logistical** challenges with scheduling and administration
- Reducing **testing time** in terms of administration and preparation
- Protecting **instructional time**
- **Instructional pacing**
- **Instructional shifts** required to prepare students for more rigorous assessment
- Balance between **formative and summative assessment** and the **purpose of TCAP**

Priorities Reflected in 2016-17 Design

- Maintain **rigor and quality** of assessment
- Change administration, where possible, to **minimize disruption to schedule**
- Update blueprints to focus on **summative assessment goals**
- Learn from other states and our experience this year to **improve overall assessment process**
- Position TNReady for **transition to updated ELA and math standards in 2017-18**

Next Steps – Assessment Transition

- Score tests from this year's assessments with a **new scoring vendor**
 - Pearson contract executed on May 13, 2016
 - Standards Setting for HS EOC on August 22-24, 2016
- Secure a **new assessment vendor** for 2016-17
 - Notice of Intent to Award Questar TCAP contract issued July 6, 2016.
 - Contract fully executed on July 14, 2016.
- **Finalize test content** for next year
 - Provide updated blueprints before end of July 2016
- **Complete scoring for 2015-16** and provide results to districts in Fall 2016
 - Full score reports for HS EOC. Raw data for grades 3-8.

2016-17 Assessment Changes

- Students will spend about **30% less time** taking state tests
- Single testing window towards the end of the school year
 - Part I eliminated for all TCAP tests
 - Partnership with vendor to ensure scores are timely and meaningful to students, parents, and educators
- Students will take the test in a series of shorter subparts
- Social Studies test in grades 3-8 will be a field test

Partnership with Questar

- Based in Apple Valley, **Minnesota** and founded in 1976
- History of success with other states
 - Mississippi, New York, Indiana, Missouri
- Proven to work on developing assessments **quickly and at scale**
- **Online platform** is user-friendly and continuously improving
- Focus on **high-quality scoring** that provides useful, timely feedback
- History of including teachers in item development

Future of Online Testing

- **We are committed to a computer-based assessment in the long-term.**
 - Computer-based testing will be phased in over the next three years.
 - All grade 3-8 testing will be paper/pencil for 2016-17
 - Optional online testing for HS based on successful proof points in early fall 2016
- The preparation that the state, districts, and schools have taken over this past year to get ready will both **support this transition** and, most importantly, our students' education.

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Mathematics Design Updates for 2016-17

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Testing Structure 2016-17: Math

Revisions:

- Allow more flexibility for district pacing of standards/content
- Allow teachers to make more seamless connections between mathematical content
- Offer flexibility in test scheduling
- Fit as much as possible into traditional bell schedules
- Allow for administration chunking or separation over multiple days

Testing Structure 2016-17: Math

- End of Year Testing (Part II) only; elimination of Part I in math
- Transition from *performance tasks* to **integrated items** for inclusion in Part II
- Continued inclusion of calculator-permitted and prohibited sections
- Three shorter subtests in math

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**English Language Arts &
Social Studies
Design Updates 2016-17**

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Testing Structure 2016-17: ELA & SS

- ELA
 - Elimination of Part I
 - Writing will be incorporated into end-of-year testing window
 - Field testing of writing prompts with rotating group of students during separate time from operational tests
 - Delaying phase-in of double-weighting for writing rubric in Part I
 - Double-weighting will not be implemented for grades 3 – 5
 - Reducing passages and time for selected response items
- Social Studies
 - Grades 3-8 will only take field test for 2016-2017
 - U.S. History is operational, including writing prompt

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Questions?



Districts and schools in Tennessee will exemplify excellence and equity such that all students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to successfully embark on their chosen path in life.

Excellence | Optimism | Judgment | Courage | Teamwork