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## Important Dates for the Weeks and Months Ahead

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ODE’s New Director of Assessment – Mary Anderson

ODE is very excited to announce Mary Anderson will be joining our team as the new Director of Assessment. Mary joins ODE from Portland Public Schools, where she most recently served as Senior Manager of Educational Measurement and Assessment in the Department of Systems Planning and Performance. In this role, she transformed school support for the administration of local and state testing, as well as partnered with other departments and schools to report, analyze, and use assessment results across the district. In her previous role as District Test Coordinator, Mary managed Portland Public’s transition to the Smarter Balanced Assessments, which included a comprehensive communication and technology deployment plan for the first operational year. Mary is delighted to be serving the students and schools of Oregon. Her first day at ODE will be May 9.

NAEP Request for Information on Late Start or Early Release Days

In 2016-2017, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) will transition from paper-pencil testing to testing on NAEP-provided tablets with keyboards. In most schools, testing on tablets will require two sequential sessions of up to two hours with about 25 students each and a dedicated space for the school day. Schools with late start or early release for professional development may not have time for two test sessions on those days.

If you know that schools in your district are usually selected for the NAEP math and reading assessments, you can email Beth LaDuca at beth.laduca@state.or.us with a request to avoid scheduling NAEP on the day of the week with a late start or early release. If you choose to make this request, please do so by April 28. If you submitted a request at the April 13 informal DTC webinar, you do not need to email. Districts and schools selected for NAEP 2017 will receive notification letters or emails from ODE in May 2016. If you have questions about NAEP 2017, contact Beth LaDuca, NAEP State Coordinator, (503) 947-5836.

TA Interface Label of “Custom Settings” Now Resolved

On April 6 ODE communicated an issue where the “custom settings” label displayed in the TA interface approval screen for students with standard settings. AIR has resolved this issue so that “Standard” is now displaying in the TA Interface test approval screen for students with standard settings.
ELPA21 Window Now Closed

The 2015-16 ELPA21 window closed on Tuesday, April 19. The final number of 4-domain assessments that were submitted is 52,325. In addition, numerous ELPA21s with domain exemptions were submitted separately. Student tests that had 100% of online items answered during the testing window without being officially submitted by the student were submitted automatically by the computer system when the window closed. The responses from the assessments will now go to the vendor for scoring, and will be used during the July performance standards setting event when the first ELPA21 cut scores will be set. No ELPA21 scores or score reports will be available until fall 2016, when the consortium-recommended cut scores are adopted by the Oregon State Board of Education.

ELPA21 K-1 Paper/Pencil Writing Materials Return Deadline

The deadline for returning the completed student booklets for the Kindergarten and 1st Grade paper/pencil writing portion of the ELPA21 is next Tuesday, April 26. The shipping instructions for returning the materials can be found in the Resources section on this page. Do not send blank paper/pencil forms, even if a personalized label is attached, as blank tests will not be scored. If you have additional questions about this process, please contact your District Test Coordinator or the Regional ESD Partner for further assistance.

Extended Assessment: Grade 12 Performance Scores

Performance scores will be available May 13, 2016 for all grade 12 Extended Assessment data entered by/on April 28, 2016. Otherwise, performance scores for Grade 12 Extended Assessment data entered after April 28, 2016 will be available May 27, 2016.

For additional information, please contact Brad Lenhardt at Brad.Lenhardt@state.or.us.

KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENT

No articles this week

SMARTER BALANCED

Audio Word Pronunciation for Dictionary Unavailable on iOS (ELA Performance Tasks)

For ELA Performance Tasks, the word pronunciation feature of the embedded dictionary is only available on non-iOS devices. Please ensure that another supported platform is available for students who need access to this feature.
Performance Task Reassignment Requests

This year Smarter Balanced Performance Tasks are randomly assigned to students within schools, however, when a student changes schools the system automatically assigns the student a new Performance Task (PT) even if the student had already started a PT in their earlier school. In order to confirm if an incoming student has an open or completed PT from their earlier school, TAs should check in the Online Reporting System (ORS) Plan and Manage Testing site. If the student is assigned more than one PT within a subject, contact your ESD partner who will reassign the original Performance Task back to student. AIR is investigating solutions to this for 2016-17.

SCIENCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

No articles this week

Test Improperities and Accessibility Supports

ODE has received a number of adult-initiated impropriety reports related to the administration of an assessment that is inconsistent with a student’s IEP; specifically, all of the statewide assessment accessibility supports identified in a student’s IEP (i.e., embedded designated supports and/or accommodations) were not set in TIDE prior to test administration. For students with disabilities, IDEA requires that these supports be provided. However, more importantly, without these supports students access to the assessment is potentially compromised and, consequently, their ability to demonstrate what they know and can do.

For additional information, contact Brad Lenhardt at Brad.Lenhardt@state.or.us.

ACT Scores for Writing

Students who complete more than one administration of ACT may combine their highest English and Writing scores from across administrations for the purpose of demonstrating proficiency in the Essential Skill of writing.

For additional information about the ACT achievement standard for the writing Essential Skill, please see page 10 of the Essential Skills and Local Performance Assessment Manual, available at http://www.ode.state.or.us/go/ES. For questions, please contact Cristen McLean at Cristen.McLean@state.or.us.
PSAT Scores for Math and Reading

AESRP recommended on April 8 the following motion to the State Board, and the State Board adopted AESRP’s recommendation at their meeting on April 14.

For students pursuing graduation in 2016:

• A score of 24 or higher on the revised PSAT math test may be used to demonstrate proficiency on the math Essential Skill.
• A score of 24 or higher on the revised PSAT reading test may be used to demonstrate proficiency on the reading Essential Skill.

ODE will provide information about the PSAT achievement standard for students pursuing graduation in 2017 or later sometime between late May and fall, pending information from College Board’s final concordance study. Information will be communicated through the Assessment & Accountability Update.

For questions, please contact Cristen McLean at Cristen.McLean@state.or.us.

Staff FTE and Ethnicity Validations Close Wednesday, April 27

The Staff FTE and Staff Ethnicity Validations will close at the end of the day on Wednesday, April 27. If you have not logged into the Achievement Data Insight (ADI) via the District Site yet to check your data, or if you’ve recently changed your data in the Staff Position Collection, please log into these validations to view your school’s or district’s information. These validations include information on staff FTE, race/ethnicity, grade bands served, total/average experience, and percentage of teachers with a graduate degree. Explanations of the various data elements will be in the instructions located at the bottom of your validation’s page. More detailed explanations with examples can be found here.

If you have questions, please contact your Regional ESD Partner or the Staff Position data owner Beth Blumenstein via email at beth.blumenstein@state.or.us or phone (503) 947-5767. If you believe the data are not accurate or you have a question about the data, click the Ask a Question button located at the top of each validation table. This will generate an email to the appropriate ODE staff. Do not include confidential information through this non-secure email.

Class Roster Web Training Wednesday, April 27

The Web Training for the 2015-16 Class Roster Collection will be held on Wednesday, April 27 at 2 PM. The purpose of the Class Roster Collection is to link teachers and students with the instructional courses. Collecting these data makes it possible to identify which students and courses are being taught by each teacher. Institutions required to submit are ESDs, Schools, School Districts, YCEPs, LTCTs, JDEPs, and Skill Centers. The collection will be open for submission Thursday, May 12 – Monday, June 27.

To log into the training, please click on the Class Roster 15-16 link at https://district.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=250. If you have any questions regarding this training or collection, please contact Beth Blumenstein at beth.blumenstein@state.or.us or (503) 947-5767. Instructional materials for this collection can be found on the Schedule of Due Dates page for Class Roster.
No articles this week

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

No articles this week