



## OEA Updates...

### Dissemination of Student Reports

Districts will receive Individual Profile Reports (IPRs) explaining the Fall 2009 Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) test results by February 22, 2010. Please send the student's IPRs to parents as soon as possible. The IPRs should not be held until the WSAS press release. The WSAS press release embargo pertains only to schools and districts sharing summary test results with the public. Please do not share any summary data publicly prior to this date.

Many districts include a letter with the student report when it is sent home. Listed below are a few key points about the IPR report, test results, and the WSAS.

1. The interpretive information for the IPR is printed on the back of the report.
2. The 2009-10 Administrator's Interpretive Guide is available on the web at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/publications.html>.
3. Performance level score ranges are the same as they have been in prior years, and are based on input from Wisconsin educators, business people, and parents.
4. Standard Performance Indices (SPIs) are provided to give an estimate of student performance within a subject area.
5. A state percentile is provided to determine how a student did relative to other test takers in the state. A lower percentile might still indicate proficiency, if the majority of the students at that grade-level are proficient. For more information go to <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/pdf/assessrsrlt.pdf>.
6. The IPR shows if any testing accommodations were provided to the student during testing.

### Communication of Testing Information to Staff

The District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) is the Office of Educational Accountability's (OEA) single point of contact for each district. In many districts, the DAC may also have a wide range of other responsibilities outside of assessment. We try to streamline communication through emails, this newsletter, and the "DAC Corner" on our web page. Through these avenues, we provide brief overviews of topics that may be timely within your district, so that you may copy and distribute information with a minimum of additional effort on your part. We invite you

## OEA Calendar...

### Important Dates

2010	
February 12	ACCESS for ELLs® Testing Window Closes
February 18	Individual Performance Reports (IPRs) shipped to Districts
February 26	Districts receive AYP alternate determination forms for schools without tested grades (SWINT) or with very small Full Academic Year enrollment in the tested grades
February 22	WSAS Phase I Test Results Received
February 23	All ACCESS Materials Must be Received at MetriTech
February 26	WSAS Optional Products Order Deadline
March 5	National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Assessment Window Closes
March 12	WSAS Phase II and Phase III Test Results Available Online
April 2	AYP alternate determination forms due for schools with fewer than 10 tested students (SWINT)
April 7	WSAS Press Release
April 20 - 22	ACCESS Reports Shipped to Districts
April 22 - May 20	ACCESS District Data Correction Window
May 21	Schools and districts receive notification of preliminary AYP determinations. AYP results are embargoed until June 8



to send us requests for topics you would like us to address through this newsletter or through other brief documents. Please contact OEA at [oeaemail@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:oeaemail@dpi.wi.gov) with any suggestions. We would like to provide districts with useful tools to communicate appropriate testing procedures, respond to questions raised about assessment, and help schools understand and communicate test results.

### Accountability for English Language Learners Update

All districts met their annual measurable achievement objectives (AMAOs) for English language learners (ELL) in 2009-10. AMAOs include determinations based on progress and attainment of English language proficiency, as well as meeting AYP for the ELL subgroup. The 2009-10 reports are based on the data from 2007-08 and 2008-09.

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) requires some changes to how ELL accountability is calculated in the future and DPI has recently submitted a proposal to address these changes. Some of the most significant changes include using all ELL students as the basis for both AMAO calculations, eliminating the use of cohorts, evaluating districts individually (rather than by consortia), and annually increasing the number and percentage of ELL students meeting AMAO1 and AMAO2. For more information see <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/ellamao.html>.

### ACCESS for ELL® Update

The *ACCESS for ELLs*® test window ends on February 12. Before returning test materials to MetriTech by February 23, districts should check all student data for accuracy. As a reminder:

- If the pre-ID label contained incorrect demographic information, the label should be discarded and the correct information bubbled in on the test booklet.
- All fields of the "*School Use Only*" sections should be completed as appropriate, based on the code descriptions in the *District and School Test Administration Manual*.

See <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/ells.html> for additional information.

Coming in March – a new online data validation option will be available for districts to make changes to student demographic data. Look for details in upcoming DAC updates, and on the website.

### Commercial Products and Workshops Promoting Test Prep and Improved Scores

The Office of Educational Accountability has received a number of phone calls from districts asking about the validity of commercial test prep products or workshops designed to enhance student performance on the WKCE. DPI does not endorse these products or workshops. It is recommended that schools limit the amount of instructional time spent on specific test preparation activities; instead, time is better spent on solid instructional activities that prepare students to demonstrate proficiency on grade level expectations. Suggestions for test preparation are available at the OEA website "DAC Corner"  
<http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/pdf/testprep.pdf>.

### NAEP Updates

Results from the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) make it possible to compare the performance of students in urban districts to public school students in the nation and large cities (i.e., cities with populations of 250,000 or more). The Milwaukee Public School District participated in the TUDA in mathematics and reading for 4th and 8th grade students for the first time during this administration. Participation in this biennial assessment will enable the Milwaukee Public School District to monitor the changes that are occurring over time in the district compared to the nation and other large cities.

For more information about the TUDA and the performance of the Milwaukee Public School District in the mathematics portion of this assessment, please visit the Nation's Report Card website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>. Also, stay tuned for NAEP 2009 Reading results. National and Wisconsin results, as well as the Milwaukee TUDA results are expected to be released in Spring 2010.



**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION****OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

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**“What is happening related to our “next generation of assessments?”**

We are using the recommendations from the Next Generation Assessment Task Force as we move forward with planning next steps for our state assessment system. Critical to this planning is the belief that an effective assessment system must provide information throughout a school year in a format that is useful for teachers, students, and parents, while still meeting requirements for state and federal accountability.

Wisconsin intends to adopt the Common Core Standards when they are released later this Spring. Adopting these standards will allow Wisconsin to work collaboratively with other states to develop components of an assessment system aligned to the Common Core. This will be more cost-effective than producing our own test, and we will also be able to explore more innovative assessment strategies through the benefits of multi-state collaboration.

At this time there are two main funding sources for these efforts: individual state applications for Race to the Top funds that may include formative and benchmark assessment development, and a separate consortia application for \$350M to develop multi-state summative assessments. Multi-state consortia are at early stages of development, and various groups are seeking common ground with other consortia to determine the best ways to collaborate. We will know more in the coming months about which options will best meet Wisconsin's needs. Our selection of consortia will be based on the options that allow for meaningful involvement of educators, that result in assessments that gauge what we most want to capture about student learning, and that provide us with timely and useful information for making decisions about educational planning.

Wisconsin has included the development of curriculum and benchmark assessments in our Race to the Top application. We will know if we are funded later this Spring, and may reapply if not funded in the first round. We will identify which consortium is the best option for the June \$350M summative assessment grant, and will know in September if we are funded. This means that we will need to administer the WKCE assessment as usual in Fall 2010.

OEA will continue to provide updates via this newsletter, and through the district assessment coordinator email list. For more information on Wisconsin's application for the Race to the Top grant, please visit: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sprntdnt/racetothetop.html>.

**FAQ...Test Results**

- Q. How do I get access to the online reports on the Online Reporting System (ORS) website?**  
Usernames and passwords for the Online Reporting System can be obtained from the Office of Educational Accountability by contacting Phil Cranley at (608) 266-9798 or Palmer Bell at (608) 267-1072.
- Q. Where can I get information that helps me understand Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) reports?**  
Within the Online Reporting System, each report has a section (located on the far left-hand side of the screen) entitled Report Details. In this section, users can access both a Report Purpose describing the intent of the report as well as a Report Legend explaining any terminology and statistics used. Some ORS reports have a blue "More Info" link in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. WSAS reports are also explained in the Administrator's Interpretive Guide, which can be accessed at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/publications.html>.
- Q. What if we did not receive a report for a student?**  
All students in grades 3-8 and 10, including those not tested, should get an Individual Profile Report. If you did not receive a report for one or more of your students, it may be because a test book was not submitted and processed for that student. If you believe that a test book was submitted, you should contact OEA at (608) 267-1072.



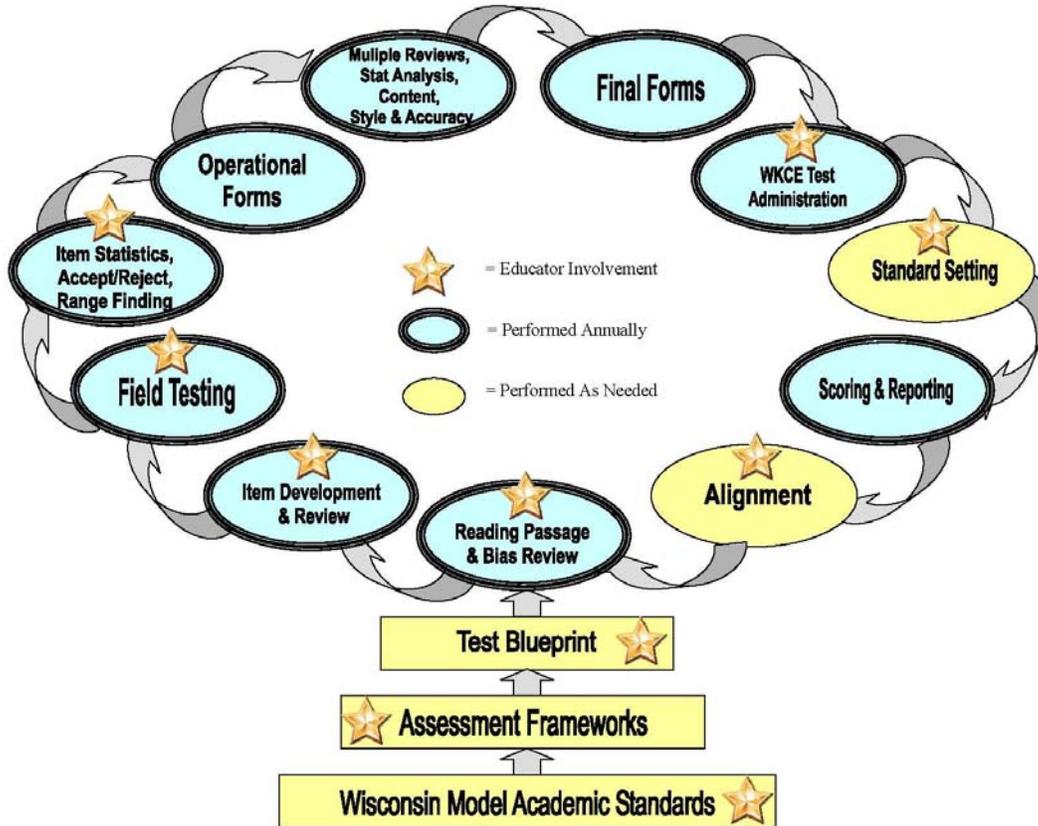
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## OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

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### Building Assessment Literacy...

The Process of Developing a State Assessment



For more information about this process see <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/hist/dev.html>.

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