School Accountability for 2014-15

Five Things You Need to Know

The Wisconsin state legislature recently passed SB 67, also known as the pause bill, stipulating that the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) shall not produce School and District Report Cards this year and that the results from 2014-15 testing cannot be used in Educator Effectiveness. Here's what schools and districts need to know about accountability as a result of the legislation:

1. **Accountability report cards will not be created for 2014-15, but assessment results will still be publicly posted in WISEdash.**
   
   Results from the 2014-15 Badger Exam, The ACT, ACT Aspire, DLM, and WKCE (science and social studies) will all be reported in the WISEdash Public Portal.

2. **Federal accountability requirements remain in effect.** This means that DPI will continue:
   
   a. **Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs)** School and district performance on the AMOs—including reading, mathematics, test participation, graduation, and attendance from 2014-15—will be reported publicly in the WISEdash Public Portal.
   
   b. **Alternate Accountability** Schools that lack data to calculate AMOs (including schools that don't receive report card scores) use an alternate accountability process to fulfill federal AMO requirements. These schools will be notified by DPI and will have to complete the alternate accountability determination form for 2014-15. The form deadline is TBD.
   
   c. **Title I Focus, Priority, and Reward Schools** Identification of the next three-year cohorts of Focus Schools and Priority Schools, as well as the annual identification of future Rewards Schools will be made using 2014-15 assessment data.
   
   d. **Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs)** Accountability expectations specific to English language learners will be calculated using, in part, 2014-15 assessment results.

3. **No state assessment results will be used in Educator Effectiveness for 2014-15.**
   
   This means no principal value-added or school wide value-added scores will be included in EE calculations this year. Value-added is a growth measure and requires multiple years of data. As such, results from 2014-15 would likely be used as part of future value-added calculations.

4. **Future School and District Report Cards may include 2014-15 assessment data.**
   
   Report card calculations use multiple years of data to ensure results are as accurate and fair as possible. Student growth and closing gaps measures fundamentally depend on having multiple years of data. As such, test participation and/or results from the 2014-15 Badger Exam, DLM, ACT Aspire, and the ACT may factor into future report card calculations.

5. **DPI is committed to working with stakeholders.**
   
   While we won’t be producing report cards this fall, we will continue to report performance, create new dashboards in WISEdash, and work to deepen data use within Wisconsin's schools and districts. Please contact us with any questions: oeemail@dpi.wi.gov.