

From: Passehl, Melissa K. DPI
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2015 4:13 PM
To: DACs
Subject: Attn: DACs re: mid-summer updates

Greetings, District Assessment Coordinators!

We hope that you've made time to rest and reflect this summer. With the budget passing recently, and many of you now turning your attention to the start of the 2015-2016 school year, we'd like to provide a couple of key updates for you, especially in light of some questions we've heard repeated across the State. Note that we are working on a more comprehensive summary of key budget impacts on assessment and accountability, and will send that as soon as it is ready in the next week or so.

DLM & Alternate Assessment - *Please share this important information with your special education colleagues.*

- As you know, DPI will not be administering the WKCE Science and Social Studies assessments in the 2015-16 school year. This also pertains to the Science and Social Studies fall Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD). In addition, the budget has removed the 9th grade fall requirement to administer the Aspire/DLM assessment. For the 2015-16 school year, districts will be required to administer DLM in ELA, mathematics, and Science for grades 3-11 only in the Spring window.
- DLM reports have been delayed until late August. We recognize that timely information regarding your student's performance is important, and are working closely with DLM on this matter.
- Questions regarding DLM/Alternate Assessment may be directed to Kristen Burton (Kristen.Burton@dpi.wi.gov; 608-267-3164).

Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS)

- For the **2015-16 school year**, students in grades 4K through 2nd will still be required to complete the PALS literacy screener in the fall and spring.
- The 1st and 2nd grade fall screening window is set for September 14-October 9, 2015
- The 4K and Kindergarten screening window is set for October 12-November 6, 2015
- The spring screening window for all grades is set for April 25-May 20, 2016.
- The optional mid-year screening window is set for January 11-February 19, 2016.
- **2016-17 School Year** - The recently signed state budget includes provisions for modifying the reading readiness requirement for the 2016-17 school year. Further clarification of these changes will be forthcoming as noted above in the summary document of budget impacts on assessment and accountability.
- Questions regarding PALS may be directed to Duane Dorn (Duane.Dorn@dpi.wi.gov; 608-267-1069).

NAEP

- Principals in schools selected for NAEP 2015-2016 have been notified of their selection and they have received their testing date. If the date does not work for a school, the NAEP State Coordinator will work with the school to find a better testing date.
- DACs in districts with schools selected for NAEP should watch for a separate email with testing dates.
- Questions regarding NAEP may be directed to Angela Dugas (Angela.Dugas@dpi.wi.gov; 608-267-2273).

General DAC Information

- Remember to notify our office when there is a change to your district's DAC position. The form may be found here: <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/assessment/dacupdate>.
- We are working to revise and streamline the communication process between OSA, DACs, and your colleagues throughout Wisconsin's schools and districts. Stay tuned for information about some new and improved features as the 2015-2016 school year gets underway. In the meantime, as mentioned above, be on the lookout for a comprehensive summary of budget impacts on assessment and accountability in the next week or so, as well as a "Tea with Troy" in mid-August with some key back-to-school information.

Thanks for all you do!

Troy Couillard
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