ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY NEWSLETTER

Issue 64, May 2023

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
Public Instruction

Updates...

Note from the Director

The Office of Educational Accountability (OEA) would like to thank our dedicated Wisconsin educators for the successful administration of the 2022-23 statewide assessments. We appreciate the time and effort you put into assessing our students and ensuring that they all have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

The 2022-23 Vendor-Based Reporting Information is now available under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines on the Assessment webpage. As assessment reports become available in the secure portals, please be aware that DPI publicly releases summary test score data for the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) in the fall. As such, DPI strongly recommends that districts coordinate their own public release with the DPI public release. After the secure release of results to districts and prior to the public release, DPI performs additional quality assurance, data validation, and data redaction when needed to protect student privacy. For more information refer to the May 3rd DAC Digest.

The 2023-24 statewide assessment timelines are available under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines on the Assessment webpage.

As the end of the school year approaches, we hope you are able to take some time to reflect on your many successes and everything you have done for the students of Wisconsin. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Viji Somasundaram

Director, Office of Educational Accountability

Calendar...

Important Dates

2023	
Date	**Event**
May 27	PreACT Secure – Individual Student Reports (ISRs), school/district data and reports are available
May 31	International Assessment – TIMSS test window closes (selected schools only)
May 31	International Assessment – ICILS test window closes (selected schools only)
May 31	Forward – Deadline for districts to request additional electronic Individual Student Report (ISR) file format delivery and to opt-out of receipt of paper ISRs
Late May	NAEP – Notification to districts with schools selected to participate in NAEP 2024
Early June	NAEP – Notification to schools selected to participate in NAEP 2024
June 5	The ACT with writing – School/district student data files and contract reports are available
June 7	ACCESS – Final 2022-23 data available in the WIDA AMS/DRC Insight Portal
June 16	Forward – Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary data available in DRC INSIGHT Portal for district Personnel access
June 16	DLM – Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary data available in KITE Educator Portal
July 14	Forward – Hard copy Individual Student Reports (ISRs) delivered to districts
Fall	Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) – Public release of summary test score data

Dates may be subject to change. Check the Assessment calendar webpages for the most current dates throughout the year.

Forward Exam Update

Individual Student Reports (ISRs) and summary reports will be available electronically in the DRC INSIGHT Portal in mid-June. Hard copy ISRs will be mailed to districts in mid-July. Schools should be sure to **send ISRs out to parents/guardians as soon as possible after receipt** either in hard copy or via your secure parent portal.

Districts and schools are responsible for ensuring that parents/guardians are provided ISRs in a language they can understand and in a format that is accessible to them. Districts and schools should take advantage of the reporting resources for parents/guardians. All parent/guardian resources available on the Forward Exam Data and Results webpage are provided in English, Spanish, and Hmong, including template (sample) ISRs. Schools may include a copy of the Spanish or Hmong translated ISR template with the English ISR, so families have a better understanding of their student's results. If a parent/guardian requires an ISR in a language other than Spanish or Hmong, school staff should contact their District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) who should contact the DRC help desk for additional translations.

OEA would like to thank all of the educators who applied to participate in the Forward Exam New Item Review that will take place this summer. New Item Review is a great opportunity for educators to review and provide critical input on the development of the Forward Exam test questions prior to use on the assessment. Educators selected to participate should expect to receive notice via email before the end of May. Those not able to apply or participate this year will have the opportunity to apply for the summer of 2024 review. New Item Review application information is posted every year in April on the Forward Exam Educator Involvement webpage.

The spring 2024 Forward Exam for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics at grades 3-8 will be aligned to the new Wisconsin Standards for ELA (adopted in 2020) and Mathematics (adopted in 2021). Updated Forward Exam Practice Tests will be available in late fall on the Forward Exam Practice Tests webpage to help students prepare. More information about the newly aligned assessments will be communicated over the next several months.

Questions regarding the Forward Exam may be directed to Alison O'Hara or Jennifer Teasdale.

The ACT with writing Update

ACT mails score reports to students' home addresses 5-8 weeks after answer documents are returned to ACT. Results are also available to students online in the students' MyACT account. Students can use the Using Your ACT Results (also available in Spanish) booklet with their ACT score report to interpret their scores. As student scores are processed by ACT, schools and districts can access student scores and reports in ACT's Online Reporting System (Success.ACT). For a complete list of reporting dates, please refer to the ACT Score Report Schedule. Resources for how to interpret ACT data can be found on the Wisconsin ACT Website. Information on Wisconsin cut scores and performance levels for ACT can be found on the ACT Data Proficiency webpage. Questions about The ACT may be directed to Nikki Braconier.

PreACT Secure Update

 Thank you to everyone who helped administer a successful first year of the PreACT Secure assessment to 9th and 10th grade students! The assessment window closed on April 28. As student scores are processed, schools and districts are able to see student scores and access reports in ACT's Online Reporting System (Success.ACT). After May 27, schools should log into ACT's Online Reporting system to download, print, and distribute ISRs to students. Students can use the Using Your PreACT Secure Results (also available in Spanish) booklet with their score report to interpret their scores. Resources for how to interpret PreACT Secure data can be found on the Wisconsin PreACT Secure webpage. Information on Wisconsin cut scores and performance levels for PreACT Secure will be released fall 2023. Questions about PreACT Secure may be directed to Nikki Braconier.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Update

 DLM score reports will be available to districts by the end of June via the KITE Educator Portal. Student score reports should be made available to parents/guardians and students as soon as possible after receipt in the district. Schools should also keep a copy of the student score reports in the student's cumulative folder. The three DLM reports provided are:

- The Individual Student Report (ISR) summarizes student performance in each content area for their grade and is designed to help students, parents/guardians, and educators identify specific areas of strength and need relative to the grade-level Essential Elements.
- The Performance Profile summarizes how a student performed in the content area assessed, including statements of skills that are typical of students performing at the identified performance level.

- The Learning Profile depicts student progress toward grade-level targets for each Essential Element assessed.

This summer, DLM is offering educators an opportunity to participate in an Item Review. Educators are brought together to review DLM test questions to ensure that those questions are accurate and accessible to all students. Educators interested in participating should reach out to Mike Peacy.

More information about DLM is available on the DLM webpage. Questions regarding DLM may be directed to Mike Peacy.

ACCESS for ELLs® Update

 In late June, the 2022-23 ACCESS for ELLs results will be added to WISEdash for Districts. This will include student-level data, as well as On-Track information. Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) will be calculated and loaded by the end of August. The ACCESS Results by Subgroup contains the On-Track information, both in a Dynamic Crosstab where you can drag and drop data elements to disaggregate students, as well as in a bar chart at the bottom of the page. The Filter will allow you to Group By different categories (e.g., Grade, Disability). The Data and Reporting section of DPI's ACCESS webpage contains two documents to assist in finding EL Data in WISEdash for Districts. Questions regarding ACCESS and finding or using EL data in WISEdash for Districts may be directed to Jesse Roberts.

Assessment of Reading Readiness Update

We would like to thank all districts for completing the Reading Readiness Reimbursement Request form. The Department will be sending out reimbursements to districts in early June.

For the 2023-24 school year, the Reading Readiness requirement will remain the same. Districts will be required to assess for Reading Readiness all 4-year-old kindergarten through 2nd grade students at least once during the school year. Each school board and the operator of each charter school shall select the appropriate, valid, and reliable assessment of literacy fundamentals to be used. The school board or operator shall ensure that the assessment evaluates whether a pupil possesses phonemic awareness and letter sound knowledge.
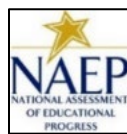
In addition to the requirement to administer a literacy screener, the following conditions apply:

- The department shall pay to the school board or operator the per pupil cost of the selected assessment.
- The school board or operator of the charter school shall report the results of a pupil's assessment to the pupil's parent or guardian.
- The school board of the school district or operator of the charter school in which the pupil is enrolled shall provide a pupil whose assessment indicates that he or she is at risk of reading difficulty with interventions or remedial reading services, as described under Wis. Stats. 121.02(1)(c).

For more information about Reading Readiness, please refer to the Reading Readiness webpage. Questions may be directed to Duane Dorn.

NAEP Update

NAEP 2022 grade 8 U.S. History and Civics national results were released in early May. Results mirror recent trends in declining performance in reading and mathematics. Read more about the results on the Nation's Report Card webpage.

NAEP 2023 Field Test assessments just wrapped up in April. Thank you to the schools in Wisconsin that participated in the grades 4, 8, and 12 reading and mathematics and grade 8 science assessments.

NAEP 2024 will get underway soon. Districts and schools will be notified in late May and/or early June if they have been selected to participate. NAEP 2024 will include a Field Trial in the fall of 2023 in reading and mathematics for grades 4, 8, and 12, as well as science in grade 8. There will also be operational assessments in those same grades and subjects beginning in January 2024. Questions related to NAEP may be directed to Angela Dugas.

Effective Use Statewide Assessment Data

Statewide assessment results will be available this summer in WISEdash for Districts. This data can be useful to districts and schools while planning ahead for the 2023-24 school year. When used with multiple measures of student performance, statewide assessment data can help districts and schools make informed decisions about:

- Evaluating the effectiveness of academic programs.
- Guiding school improvement planning and goal setting.
- Establishing professional development plans.
- Aligning curriculum and deploying resources.

There are several resources (e.g., guides, videos, FAQs) available on the WISEdash for Districts webpage to help users navigate student data within WISEdash. One such helpful resource is the Using Assessment Dashboards presentation that guides users through the various dashboards and useful tools to analyze assessment data. For additional support and to learn more about the processes and resources available to support district and school leaders in their data-informed decision-making, visit the WISExplore website.
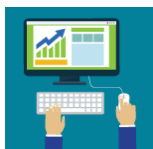
Final Joint Federal Notifications

As announced in an email to District Administrators from Deputy State Superintendent John Johnson, final joint federal notifications (JFNs) were provided to schools and districts in SAFE, the Secure Access File Exchange on March 23. The joint notification packet includes:

- Final versions of the ESSA Accountability Reports and District Summary Reports,
- Final IDEA LEA Determinations, and
- IDEA Racial Equity in Special Education Reports, which are available for each district and include identifications and required actions, if any, for districts identified with racial disproportionality in Special Education identification, discipline, and/or placement.
- Final Progress to Exit Reports will be released in June to previously identified Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) schools.

Public versions of the ESSA Accountability and District Summary Reports are also available on the ESSA Accountability Reports app located on our Federal Accountability webpage. As a reminder, Progress to Exit Reports, IDEA LEA Determinations, and Racial Equity in Special Education Reports are not released publicly. Questions about accountability may be directed to the Office of Educational Accountability (OEA).

Spring Demographic Snapshot

DPI conducted the WISEdata Spring Demographic Snapshot on May 23. These data will be used to make sure that demographics associated with, and reported for, assessment results are as accurate and timely as possible. If you have any questions about WISEdata snapshots, please submit a help ticket.

Resource Inequity Data Tool

The 2022-23 Resource Inequity Data Tool is now available for schools and districts in the Secure Access File Exchange (SAFE). This tool helps school and district staff examine the distribution of resources within their schools and align these resources with local equity goals. Specifically, this tool helps school and district staff:

- Examine distribution of resources: staffing, funding, course offerings, instructional materials, and engagement with families.
- Compare school, district, and state data to see where your school and district stand relative to others.
- Ask key questions to find patterns in the data.
- Plan action steps to better align distribution of resources with local goals.

The Resource Inequity Data Tool was designed as a resource for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI/ATSI) schools developing improvement plans. Though the tool is specifically targeted to these identified schools, it is also provided to all schools to help identify and address resource inequities. Questions about the Resource Inequity Data Tool may be directed to dpititle1@dpi.wi.gov.

FAQ …

Reminder – Each assessment has an FAQ webpage with scenarios/issues related to that specific assessment: ACCESS for ELLs FAQ, ACT FAQ, DLM FAQ, Forward Exam FAQ, Pre ACT Secure FAQ.

Q. Will there be a sample letter available to send home to parents with Individual Student Reports (ISRs)?
Yes, each assessment has a sample parent letter (updated for 2022-23) that may be used to accompany ISRs when sent home to parents/guardians. These letters are accessible via the specific assessment's data and results webpage. Districts and schools are required to communicate this information with families in a method that is accessible to them (i.e., language and accommodation needs). These resources are available in English, Spanish, and Hmong.

Q. Are we permitted to post Individual Student Reports (ISRs) on our secure parent portals?
Yes. You may post ISRs on your secure parent portals.

Q. Where can I find information about testing data and reporting?
Each assessment has a data and results webpage in its submenu that is specific to that assessment. More information about each specific assessment's data and results may be found on those pages.

Q. Is there a resource that shows 2022-23 reporting timelines for all statewide assessments?
There is a reporting timeline available on the Assessment webpage under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines.

Q. Is there a resource that shows the 2023-24 schedule for all statewide assessments?
There is a 2023-24 Statewide Assessment Schedule available on the Assessment webpage under Wisconsin State Assessment Timelines.

> We hope you find this newsletter and its contents beneficial. Questions may be directed to the Office of Educational Accountability.

Jill K. Underly, PhD., State Superintendent