

Office of Assessment Weekly Update #2 August 12, 2016

Welcome back to school! Where did the summer go? I hope everyone had a chance to rest, relax, and recharge for the 16-17 school year.

New for SY 16-17: Weekly updates will be archived on a Weekly Communications page on the SD DOE website: <http://doe.sd.gov/Assessment/weekly.aspx> . The [SD DOE Assessment website](#) and assessment portals also remain important sources of information.

Test Windows: Current anticipated test windows for the Spring 2017 state assessments are posted on the [SD DOE Assessment page](#). Smarter Balanced and ACCESS dates are confirmed. Science and MSAA dates may change slightly. We will keep you posted as more information is available.

Upcoming Events:

New Assessment Coordinator Workshop: August 31, 2016 from 9am -4 pm; at the Ramkota in Pierre.

The focus of the workshop provide a detailed overview of the state assessment system and will discuss shared responsibilities needed to ensure that district and school level administration is successful. While this is geared toward new coordinators, veteran coordinators are welcome too. Registration is required and is through [GoSignMeUp!](#) For New Assessment Coordinator Workshop.

Fall Assessment Workshops: the week of October 17-21 across the state

These workshops will focus on connecting student data, assessments, curriculum and instruction. This has been designed to provide some proactive tips to address Frequently Asked Questions from last year's assessment administration, and includes information that may be valuable to a variety of education professionals including: assessment directors, infinite campus contacts, curriculum directors, and administrators. Teams of three to four from a district are encouraged to attend and there will be an opportunity for participants to **develop a plan of shared responsibility for assessment administration**. More details on the specific date and location near your district are found in Upcoming Workshops and Webinars area of the website <http://doe.sd.gov/Assessment/> . Registration is required through [GoSignMeUp!](#) for "Fall Assessment and Accountability Workshop" under Assessment.

Smarter Balanced Updates:

New Coordinators: Please email Jan Martin, jan.martin@state.sd.us to set up your Smarter Balanced account.

Provisioning Users: District level users are assigned by the SD DOE. Once district users have access to the system, they can add and delete other users at the local level. District level users need to review accounts and delete accounts for staff no longer working for the district.

Smarter Balanced Secure Browser: For devices using Windows, MAC, or Linux operating systems, the [secure browser](#) is ready to be updated. Browsers must be updated to version 9.0 as support for the 2015-16 browser ends August 29.

System Updates: The TIDE system will be offline from Aug. 12 – Aug. 16, 2016 for upgrades. When TIDE is back online on Aug. 17, all current TIDE account holders will receive an email with directions for required updating of passwords.

Users will see some significant updates to address user concerns. All existing data will remain in the system, but the interface will be much more user-friendly. Quick guides and a new TIDE manual will be available when the upgrades are completed. More details forthcoming.

Interim Assessments: Come online Sept. 7, 2016. Student information will be loaded from Infinite Campus into TIDE starting the last week in August. It may take up to two business days for changes in the state edition of Infinite Campus to show up in the TIDE system. The Office of Assessment will sponsor an Interim Assessment Workshop on October 7, 2016 in Pierre. More information and registration is in [GoSignMeUp!](#)

Student Reports: Student reports are currently available through the Smarter Balanced Online Reporting System (ORS) and will be in the South Dakota Assessment Portal (SDAP) shortly. Directions for batch printing can be found on [Smarter Balanced page](#).

MSAA Update:

Student, school and district reports will be available on the [MSAA](#) portal from August 19 – September 19. More details on accessing the reports will be sent to districts with students who took MSAA. The information will be posted on the [MSAA](#) page. Feel free to contact Ben Morrison, ben.morrison@state.sd.us, for more details.

South Dakota Assessment Portal (SDAP):

Please contact Chris Booth, Christina.booth@state.sd.us to add or delete users for SDAP. If a person has retired or moved out of state, their account should be deleted. If a teacher or administrator has moved to another district, their account should be transferred to the new district. If a staff member has a name change or new email account, their account needs to be updated with the correct email address; otherwise the educator will not have access. All of the updates are necessary in order to maintain the security of the student data in the system.

DOE Staff Contacts:

Jan Martin, Jan.Martin@state.sd.us, is the administrator of the assessment office, and the primary contact for the Smarter Balanced summative assessment system.

Joe Moran, Joe.Moran@state.sd.us, oversees work with the Digital Library and Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments.

Mike Rickert, Michael.Rickert@state.sd.us, oversees home school testing and serves as the NAEP State Coordinator. More details on what test will be provided by SD DOE for grades 4, 8, and 11 will be forthcoming.

Chris Booth, Christina.Booth@state.sd.us, oversees the Science Assessments and services provided within the South Dakota Assessment Portal (eMetric).

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