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ASSESSMENT MONTHLY UPDATE

Meet our new Assessment Coordinator Krista Averill!

Over the course of the summer, the DOE Assessment Team welcomed new assessment coordinator, Krista Averill. She will be coordinating the general mathematics, reading and science assessments. Prior to joining the Department, Krista worked for nine years teaching at the elementary and middle school levels, including five years as a science educator in Maine.



She strongly believes that assessment is one way of ensuring equity in education and looks forward to working with teachers and administrators from across the state. Please update contact information in your address books to include Krista's phone and email information: 207-215-6528, krista.averill@maine.gov. We're excited to have Krista join the team and hope you join us in welcoming her!

Assessment Calendar Now Available

The assessment calendar for the 2022-2023 school year is now available. The schedule is located below and available on the assessment calendar webpage.

Assessment	Content Area	Grades	Assessment Window Dates
NWEA	Math & Reading	3 -8, 2 nd year of HS	October 3 – 28, 2022
ACCESS for ELLs Alt. ACCESS for ELLs	English Language Proficiency	K-12	January 9, 2023 – March 3, 2023
NWEA (Winter - optional)	Math & Reading	3 -8, 2 nd year of HS	January 9, 2023 – February 3, 2023
MSAA	Math, ELA, Science	Grades 3 – 8, 3 rd year of HS Grades 5, 8 and 3 rd year of HS	March 13, 2023- April 28, 2023
NWEA	Math & Reading	3 – 8, 2 nd year of HS	May 1 -26, 2023
Maine Science	Science	Grades 5 - 8 and 3 rd year of HS	May 15 – 26, 2023

WELCOME BACK!

We hope you've had the opportunity to disconnect over the summer to rest, relax and rejuvenate.

Assessment Office Hours/Lunch & Learn Sessions

As the assessment windows draw near, we will again be scheduling assessment office hours/lunch and learn sessions. Please watch our web site for dates and times.

Updates to Maine Assessment Program /Assessment Schedule for 2022-2023

During the height of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Department heard from and responded to the expressed school administrative unit (SAU) and school needs to focus on supporting students. The Maine DOE formed a partnership with NWEA to expand MAP Growth to all schools and SAUs for grades 3-8 and high school as an emergency effort to provide educators, school communities, and the state with real-time information about student achievement.

The Department has continued to hear from educators and administrators across the State that timely and useful data to inform instruction remain vitally important. We have also heard that growth measures comparing the performance of different cohorts each spring have been unhelpful. Therefore, in the Spring of 2023, the Department will begin implementing a flexible, innovative assessment that closely mirrors the MAP Growth assessment model for math and reading in grades 3-8 and the second year of high school. This assessment will also serve as our federally required, statewide assessment. The assessments will be adaptive each year for grades 3-8, and fixed form (not adaptive) in the second year of high school. The first administration will occur during the spring 2023 assessment administration window, with a full transition to a through-year (optional Winter implementation) model in the 2023-24 school year. Growth will then be measured based on Fall to Spring performance within the same cohort of students. Assessment items will include well-vetted, adaptive MAP Growth items along with specific grade-level items, producing a valid RIT score that is nationally comparable and will provide a measure of consistency over time in addition to Maine-specific grade-level performance levels.

This transition will allow us to maintain existing interim assessments while also meeting federal requirements in fewer assessment administrations in a manner that will provide a system of equitable, student-centered, and personalized measures to provide evidence, data, and instructionally relevant information and tools.



What is a flexible, through-year assessment program?

The assessments are intended to provide information for educators throughout the year. This means assessments can be administered 2-3 times a year: fall, winter (optional), and spring. Although many of the elements below are a familiar part of the current program, items highlighted* reflect new features/functionality now available.

- The assessments are computer adaptive, providing a personalized experience for each student.
- The assessments provide educators information about student performance relative to end of year achievement level expectations. *
- The assessments are efficient and leverage information about how students performed in previous administrations to personalize later assessment experiences. *
- The spring assessment generate a summative score that meets federal requirements. *
- The assessments support within year growth and national comparisons, norm-referenced score (i.e., RIT scores) are provided after each administration.

Key benefits of this flexible, through-year state assessment program for educators and students in Maine include:

- A two to three time per year assessment program that allows for performance monitoring while eliminating the need for a standalone and disconnected state summative assessment each Spring, supporting the continuity of the overall assessment experience. *
- In addition to a state scale score, the assessment will provide RIT scores that yield national normative information.
- A reduction of overall assessment administrations compared to Maine’s current 3-8 and second year* of high school program. There will only be two required administrations of math and reading each year. There will no longer be a separate language usage assessment.
- A reduction in lost instructional time (each assessment is estimated to take under 1 hour).
- New, interactive reports and tools designed to provide timely and actionable information to support our Maine educators and students.
- Continued cost saving for district leaders as this program will provide districts and schools with information previously provided by interim assessments, reducing the need for districts to purchase an interim assessment.

Next steps:

To support a smooth transition, the Maine DOE will continue to provide MAP Growth administrations for Math and Reading in the fall and winter (optional) of the 2022/2023 school as we prepare for the spring 2023 administration. Maine DOE will be sponsoring professional learning opportunities designed to support educators in the administration of the assessment and their use of through-year data for instructional purposes. Further information regarding professional learning will be forthcoming.

It should be noted, there are no changes to the alternate assessment provided to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. The Multi-State Alternate Assessment (MSAA) will continue to be utilized in mathematics, ELA, and science.



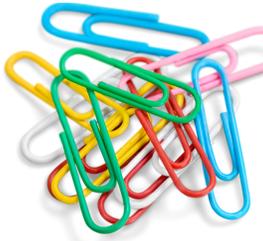
Confidential Reports for Spring 2022 Results

The Spring 2022 assessment data results for Math and English Language Arts are accessible via assessment portals with the exception of Maine science and MSAA science assessment data. We are anticipating Science data will be available to Maine educators in early fall. The team continues to work to populate MAARS with available data as quickly as possible.

NWEA

Students will continue to participate in the NWEA MAP Growth Assessment for Reading and Mathematics this fall and in the winter (optional). Please refer to the “Updates to Maine Assessment” section above to find details about exciting changes to the spring assessment, the NWEA Through-Year Assessment. Through-Year Assessment.

Fall	NWEA MAP Growth Assessment
Winter (Optional)	NWEA MAP Growth Assessment
Spring (Required)	NWEA Through-Year Assessment (Please see above for details.)



Maine Science: Standard Setting Update

On July 26 – 28, 20 educators from across the state of Maine, in partnership with the Maine DOE and New Meridian, participated in an in-person standard-setting workshop for the MEA Science Assessment. During this workshop, participants used Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs), the expected knowledge, skills, and abilities of students at each achievement level, to determine cut-scores to differentiate the achievement expectations for the following four levels:

- Well Below State Expectations
- Below State Expectations
- At State Expectations
- Above State Expectations

Standard setting is one step towards producing reliable and usable data reports from the spring 2022 and future Maine Science administrations. Spring 2022 student results reports will be released this fall with educators able to review within Maine’s Assessment & Accountability Reporting System (MAARS).

MSAA

The Maine DOE is pleased to provide new and comprehensive reporting resources for the state alternate assessments beginning this year. SAU, school, and student reports for the MSAA math/ELA administration in Spring 2022 are now available for download, within the MSAA System. Assessment Coordinators will need their MSAA login information to access and download these reports.

If your SAU had students participating in state alternate assessments in Spring 2022, please check in with your district’s alternate assessment coordinator for SY 21-22 to confirm that all district/school/student reports are downloaded.



With the release of these reports, we also want to call your attention to several new resources now available on our Maine DOE/MSAA webpage to support educators and families with accessing and understanding these reports:

- Report Download instructions: Step by Step Guide for Maine SAUs about how to download MSAA Reports.
- Understanding and Utilizing MSAA Score Reports: a brief recorded presentation providing an overview of the different reports available at the district, school and student levels.
- Score Report Interpretation Guide: A detailed guide the MSAA reports which also includes writing rubrics and performance level descriptors.
- MSAA Parent Guides by Grade Level: These family resources provide an overview of the assessment, the important of academic instruction, potential instructional supports, and ideas for collaboration between families and teachers.



CONFIDENTIAL



Name: FirstName1 LastName1
ID: 42382348
School: Demonstration School 1
Test Date: Spring 2022
Grade: 05

What Is In This Report?

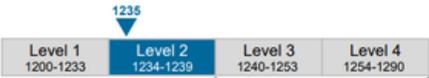
Page 1: Contains a summary of your child's performance on this year's test.
Page 2: Contains an introductory letter from MSAA and next steps to support your child.

Performance Summary

FirstName1's performance in English Language Arts and Mathematics is described below.

English Language Arts

Performance Level	Score
Level 2	1235



Meets Expectations

A student's test score can vary. If your child were to be tested again, it is likely that they would receive a score between 1232 and 1248.

English Language Arts consists of Reading and Writing. See below for percent of possible points earned in each area.

Reading 42% Writing 44%

Mathematics

Performance Level	Score
Level 3	1249



Meets Expectations

A student's test score can vary. If your child were to be tested again, it is likely that they would receive a score between 1245 and 1253.

Performance Level Descriptors

The scale score and performance level for each content area above summarize FirstName1's performance on the English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics tests. The performance level descriptors below describe the knowledge and skills that children who perform at this level generally demonstrate.

English Language Arts

✓ use brief literary texts to identify the central idea and supporting details, answer questions about the text, and describe the relationship between characters and

Mathematics

✓ solve addition, subtraction, and multiplication problems using mathematical language and symbolic representations (e.g. < > =)

^ Assessment Reports

Report Download Instructions: Step-by-step guide for Maine SAUs and Assessment Coordinators about how to download district, school and student reports for the MSAA.

Understanding and Utilizing MSAA Score Reports (16:55) - This recorded presentation provides a short and thorough overview of the different report resources available at the district, school and student levels.

Score Report Interpretation Guide: A detailed guide to various MSAA score reports available at the district, school and student levels, including writing rubrics and performance level descriptors.

MSAA Parent Guides by Grade Level: This overview of the MSAA System includes information about alternate assessment, the importance of academic instruction, potential instructional supports, and ways to collaborate with your child's teachers.

ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs

As a reminder, all students must be screened for potential multilingual learner (ML) status in Maine. For more information around federal and state requirements around the identification, service and assessments of MLs, please visit the Maine DOE Multilingual Learner homepage.

New this year! Maine DOE and WIDA will be offering a professional development session on the topic of planning with the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework, targeted for curriculum and teacher leaders. This offering will include the times below

Wednesday, 11/30/22 3-4 p.m.	Introductory Webinar (Virtual)
Tuesday, 12/6/22 9am-3pm	In-person workshop, facilitated by WIDA 90 Blossom Street, Augusta Maine Deering Building, Room 101

Registration information to follow in the September Assessment Team Monthly Update. Save the dates!



For more information on the WIDA ELD Standards Framework, click here

NAEP

Field studies and field trials are being conducted in various locations throughout the country as NAEP moves toward the utilization of an assessment platform that is cloud based and functions well on chromebooks as well as other devices. This would also provide an avenue for reduced staff contact through remote administration. No Maine schools were selected for participation in either field studies or field trials.

International Assessments

PISA

Two Maine schools were selected for the fall 2022 administration of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2022 Main Study. Selected 15-year-old students participate in mathematics, reading, science, and financial literacy assessments. The PISA administration window is October 3 – November 25, 2022. Superintendents in schools selected to participate have been notified.

TIMSS

Three Maine schools have also been selected for participation in the Trends in Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2023 to be administered in the spring of 2023. TIMSS is administered to grade 4 and grade students at sampled schools. The TIMSS administration window is March 1– May 31, 2023. Superintendents in schools selected to participate have been notified.

NEO & SYNERGY Reminders

A general reminder to ensure that contact information for teaching and non-teaching roles is updated within NEO. Instructions to update SAU roles (including DACs) are located within the following document: [Updating Staff Contact Information](#). Please reach out to the MEDMS helpdesk with any questions or concerns.