# Assessment Team

# Office Hours/Lunch & Learn

March 23, 2022

**Questions & Answers**

# NWEA

**Q: Can you please post the link to the crosswalk to the CCSS**

A: The materials developed by Danielle (Dee) Saucier, and Morgan Dunton are not publicly posted due to the professional learning provided to walk through the documentation. The documents have previously been shared in ELA-related professional learning sessions and through Maine Curriculum Leaders Association.

**Q: Is there an intent to publish both achievement and growth on the dashboard?**

A: Currently, only achievement data is published on the ESSA Data Dashboard. If SAU and school leadership express a benefit and value to including aggregated student growth related data, this can be explored in the next iteration of the ESSA Data Dashboard.

**Q: Can the data be available in MAARS as early as June?**

A: The NWEA assessment window closes June 10th, andthe data takes approximately a month or so to come to the Maine DOE. The assessment team’s data analyst then works to “clean” the file which entails ensuring demographic information was accurately captured, duplicate records deleted, complete student records are available, and any necessary invalidations recorded in the file. Generally, the files are verified with the October 1st enrollment file to ensure students’ data is provided in the correct and corresponding SAU. We may be able to include preliminary data in MAARS however, this will be verified with both the Education Data Manager and reporting vendor, FocalPoint.

Online reporting for MSAA will be available mid-July

MSAA Science and Maine Science will be available to districts in late October, due to standard setting and range finding.

ELP data is available May 9th, via WIDA AMS.

# Maine Science

**Q: Is there currently an alignment guide/study between the Maine Science and Next Generation Science Standards?**

A: Not at this time. Spring 2021 was our first administration of the New Meridian Science Assessment as a field test. After spring 2022 being an operational administration and being scheduled to submit for USDE Peer Review, Maine DOE will need to subcontract for an alignment study within this calendar year.

**Q: Science practice tests: going to https://adamexam.com/tester/, it says a test code is needed?**

A: Yes, there are login codes required for both the tutorial and practice tests. The practice test and tutorial codes can be found at the MDOE [Maine Science webpage](https://www.maine.gov/doe/Testing_Accountability/MECAS/Generalscience) and in the Practice Test Manuals via the [ZenDesk website](https://mescience.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/sections/1500001237162-Resources-Document-Downloads).

1. Maine Science Tutorial demonstrates the functionality of the ADAM platform and types of questions.
2. The Practice Assessments give sample science items at each of the 3 assessed grade levels.
3. Both the tutorial and practice tests are accessible via: <https://adamexam.com/tester/> and do not require the secure lockdown browser.
4. Refer to [Practice Assessments](https://mescience.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/4499097070743-Practice-Assessment-and-Tutorial-Administration-Manuals-and-Test-Codes) prior to student practice for answer rationales, exemplars, and guidance for constructed response items.
5. TTS = Text to Speech.

### **Grade 5 Practice Test codes:**

(code does not require a lockdown browser)

* No Text-to-speech (TTS): **SPTGR5**
* Text-to-speech (TTS) enabled: **SPTGR5T**

### **Grade 8 Practice Test codes:**

(code does not require a lockdown browser)

* No Text-to-speech (TTS): **SPTGR8**
* Text-to-speech (TTS) enabled: **SPTGR8T**

### **High School Practice Test codes:**

(code does not require a lockdown browser)

* No Text-to-speech (TTS): **SPTHSN**
* Text-to-speech (TTS) enabled: **SPTHST**

### **Tutorial Test codes:**

(code does not require a lockdown browser)

* No Text-to-speech (TTS): **STUTOR**
* Text-to-speech (TTS) enabled: **STUTORT**

**Q: The ADAM browser that we installed and pushed to student devices last spring will not be work for this year?**

A: Correct as the lockdown browser has been updated. It is always best practice that last year’s browser should be uninstalled on student devices, and the ADAM assessment platform for Spring 2022 can be found <https://adamexam.com/> The student computer must have access to the internet before the Lockdown Browser will initialize for student use. Assessment delivery devices can be networked via wired or wireless connections.

**Q: For the Science secure browser, can I take the version on this website https://mzdevinc.com/lockdown/ (for Mac) and push this version out to devices change the .DMG file and covert it to a .PKG, create a policy, and scope in JAMF)?**

A: Updating to the latest version of the lockdown browser is strongly recommended. When pushing the lockdown to new machines you should update the .pkg file to use the new file located at [https://mzdevinc.com/lockdown/](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmzdevinc.com%2Flockdown%2F&data=04%7C01%7CNancy.Godfrey%40maine.gov%7Ca049b87a30db4d9c475a08da123d4379%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C637842351582702844%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=E%2FVScx0SIHkM2S7hwmPY8wz3TX4rPVTRhnfm04FmFAk%3D&reserved=0) Pushing the new package will install over the previous software, though it is always recommended to remove older software if possible. To test if the browser is properly installed, you can use this test code which simulates a lock down browser experience: 6MEMCF

# General questions

**Q: Clarifying question for the DOE team - Does the state assessment need to be norm and criterion referenced?**

A: The assessment does not need to be norm and criterion referenced. Current performance levels have been established using norm-referenced data however, the intention moving forward is to establish Maine’s benchmarking and standard setting following the implementation of the SY 22-23 assessment administration.

**Q: What is the best venue for getting an answer to my question regarding the NWEA drill down reports? What is the best recourse for follow up questions?**

A: There are multiple avenues an SAU can pose and obtain a response to questions. This question pertains specifically to the availability of NWEA reports that utilize the CCSS. This question was originally posed during an MSAA (Multi-State Alternate Assessment) office hour session on March 9, ahead of the opening of the MSAA assessment window on March 14. It was noted that the session focus was the MSAA however, the team did work to respond to the question as much as possible during the office hour and indicated additional follow-up would be required and could be addressed at the March 23, general office hour session. On March 16, Janette Kirk, provided a direct response to individuals who posed the question in addition to providing the response to Courtney Belolan from MCLA to ensure the response and information could be shared with others within the state if and when applicable. The response was also included in the Q & A document for the MSAA session and posted to the Maine DOE assessment webpages. When this question was posed again during office hours today, (3/23) the team indicated a response had been provided and therefore, the question would not be addressed further.

The monthly, bi-monthly, or weekly office hours (May), email, and phone continue to be the best forums to reach out to the team with questions. The team's continued priority is to support SAU and school leaders and educators in the administration of the assessments.

**Question posed during the March 9th office hours referenced above:**

**Q: What is the progress made by the Department in reporting assessment results in a way that those of us that are most familiar with using NWEA have determined success criteria for our students. (I was hoping to create an agenda item for the March 23rd meeting to consider. If this is not possible, please let me know what venue I must consider prior to that meeting. I am hoping that this request will be recorded in the notes attached to the recording.)**

During the [English Language Arts (ELA) standards review process conducted in 2019](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.maine.gov%2Fdoe%2Flearning%2Fcontent%2Fela%2Freview&data=04%7C01%7CJanette.Kirk%40maine.gov%7Cc302adb9831349e17cfd08da02b46da8%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C637825271217391771%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=T8vgR0AzcvWIqMXalk1POc%2Fm5nXHvvNIFJOZTQq5o6U%3D&reserved=0) as required under [Title 20-A §6209 (4)](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mainelegislature.org%2Flegis%2Fstatutes%2F20-a%2Ftitle20-Asec6209.html&data=04%7C01%7CJanette.Kirk%40maine.gov%7Cc302adb9831349e17cfd08da02b46da8%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C637825271217391771%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=8u8jZbKJIjPmvHl2HkdAxKEp6%2Fx58Z3%2FgMVAZNWQEbY%3D&reserved=0) the ELA standards were revised. The standards review steering committee and workgroup members were comprised of active ELA educators from across the state, representative of all facets of PK-20 education. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the implementation and rollout of the standards were postponed. This resulted in changes to reports within the NWEA MARC platform during the summer of 2021 when the MAP Growth assessment was updated to align to the revised ELA MLRs and standards. The current reports within the NWEA MARC platform, reflect the instructional standards as outlined in the Maine Learning Results (MLRs) for ELA.

The reports within the NWEA MARC platform align with the revised ELA MLRs and standards contained within them providing a direct correlation between the standards utilized for instruction, the assessment related to the standards, and the subsequent performance of students in relation to the revised ELA MLR standards. For SAUs who have utilized the NWEA assessment locally for an extended period, this has presented challenges regarding continuity of reporting and subsequent development, review, and revision of student goals. As outlined in professional learning and technical assistance sessions offered through Maine Curriculum Leaders (MCLA) and across the state by Maine DOE ELA content specialists, standards have not been removed from the revised ELA MLRs rather, they’ve been streamlined to reflect the transference of learning across all forms of text. This streamlining included combining standards of similar nature or intent and eliminating standards that are redundant or do not serve the overall purpose of the ELA vision. At the middle and high school grades, the standards were collapsed into bands instead of grade levels. Individual Crosswalks have been developed for grades K-5 and shared to outline the changes and to provide support for educators in identifying the correlation between the prior and revised standards.

This shift in reporting structure mirrors the shift and revisions to the ELA MLRs and is a process in which NWEA engages with all its partners. The reporting structure for the MAP reports is a product of the version of the MAP Growth assessment aligned to specific state standards that students are taking. Since Maine students are no longer taking the CCSS aligned version of MAP Growth, the former reporting structure is not available. In short, a “drop-down” for the CCSS reporting structure is not possible due to the aligned MLR version of MAP Growth students are taking.

The Maine DOE and assessment team continues to listen to educators to ensure state-administered assessments are relevant and provide actionable and timely data to inform necessary decision-making. Although the Department is required to ensure that the ELA assessment is aligned to Maine’s ELA standards, the reports within the NWEA MARC platform are not federally required or mandated. Of course, all SAUs and the state is required to continue to share assessment data information with stakeholders and families as applicable.