Attention Public School Principals, Public Charter School Directors, VPs (involved with testing), Test Coordinators, Technology Coordinators, Student Services Coordinators, and Curriculum Coordinators

(This message is also being sent to Complex Area Superintendents, Complex Area Support Team Leaders, and Information Technology Managers.)

Assessment News

Monday, August 17, 2020

Top News This Week

General Information

1. School Contact List Updates

Please update or confirm any changes to your school test coordinators and other school leaders in the School Contacts list for all assessments as soon as possible. Updating the test coordinator and school leader names will ensure that the appropriate people receive the Assessment News, training memos, and other statewide testing communications in a timely fashion. New test and technology coordinators should be added as soon as they are identified so they receive notification of upcoming training sessions and software updates.

2. Interim Assessments for SY 2020-2021

All Interim Assessments in ELA, Mathematics, and Science (NGSS) will be available on August 18, 2020. The following documents are available to guide educators in administering the interim assessments:

- The Smarter Balanced Interim Test Administration Guide;
- The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments Fact Sheet;
- The NGSS Interim Test Administration Guide; and
- The NGSS Interim Assessments Fact Sheet.

All Interim Assessment results will be available through the new Centralized Reporting System (formerly known as the AIRWays Reporting). Interim Assessments may be administered through the Secure Browser, or via standard web browser at the Student Remote Interim Assessment Administration Site. For more information, please consult the Guide to Remotely Administering Interim Assessments.

The ACT

3. ACT Manage Participation

The deadline to complete the Manage Participation tasks in PANext is ***August 21, 2020.*** Test coordinators should complete the Manage Participation and shipping tasks in PANext before then. If a school will *not* be conducting Fall makeup testing (i.e., administered makeup testing during summer National Test dates), they should indicate they are not testing in PANext as well so they don't receive test materials. For a complete list of deadlines, test coordinators should check the Fall Schedule of Events. For assistance with any of these tasks, please contact Customer Service at (800) 553-6244 ext. 2800 between 3:00 am and 1:00 pm HST.

4. ACT TAA Deadline Extension

The TAA system is now accessed at http://success.act.org. It has come to our attention that this important change in the TAA system has had unintended consequences to our customers. Because of the system change, we are extending the deadline to request accommodations through **Wednesday, August 19, 2020**. An updated TAA User Guide and email with more information will be sent to customers on Monday morning (August 17). We apologize for the inconvenience this has caused and hope the extension will provide adequate time for your school to request accommodations.

WIDA ACCESS for ELLs

5. ACCESS For ELLs Manuals

The Test Administrator Manual and Test Coordinator Manual (located under ACCESS for ELLs in the Secure Portal Download Library) have been refreshed, with a new look and feel and clearer and more streamlined content. Please note: some new and updated resources referenced in the "New for the 2020-2021 School Year" section of these manuals will be released in the coming weeks.

"Learning never exhausts the mind." *- Leonardo Da Vinci*

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