POLICY

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2622 STUDENT ASSESSMENT

State assessments provide parents with important information about their child's progress; detailed diagnostic information about each individual student's performance that educators, parents, and students can utilize to enhance foundational knowledge and student achievement; and include item analysis which will clarify a student's level of knowledge and understanding of a particular subject or area of a subject. The data derived from State assessments are utilized by teachers and administrators to pinpoint areas of difficulty and customize instruction accordingly. Such data can be accessed and utilized as a student progresses to successive school levels.

The Commissioner of Education, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq. and 18A:7E-2 and 3, may implement assessments of student achievement in any grade(s) and by such assessments as the Commissioner deems appropriate. The system and related schedule of Statewide assessments shall be approved by the New Jersey State Board of Education. The school district shall, according to a schedule prescribed by the Commissioner, administer the applicable Statewide assessments pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(c) and (d).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(c), all students at grade levels three through six, and at any other grade(s) designated by the Commissioner pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(a), shall take all appropriate Statewide assessments as scheduled. The school district will provide accommodations or modifications to the Statewide assessment system in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(d).

Students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 shall participate in Statewide assessments in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10. The school district shall administer the alternative State assessment for students with disabilities in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(d)3.

The school district shall implement alternative ways for students to demonstrate graduation proficiency in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6, (f), (g), (h), or (i), as applicable.

The Superintendent shall report assessment results to the public and provide educators, parents, and students with assessment results in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.3.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq.; 18A:7E-2; 18A7E-3

N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1 et seq.; 6A:8-5.1; 6A:14-1.1 et seq.; 6A:14-3.7; 6A:14-4.10

Adopted: 17 September 2014

Revised:



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R 2622 STUDENT ASSESSMENT

- A. Statewide Assessment System N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1
 - 1. The school district shall, according to a schedule prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, administer the applicable Statewide assessments, including the following major components: the elementary assessment component for grades three through five; the middle school assessment component for grade six; and the alternative State assessment for students with disabilities; and provide notification to each student entering grades three through six of the Statewide assessment schedule.
 - 2. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(c), all students at grade levels three through six, and at any other grade(s) designated by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(a), shall take all appropriate Statewide assessments as scheduled.
 - a. The school district shall provide all appropriate accommodations or modifications to the Statewide assessment system as specified by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) for English language learners (ELLs) and students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 or eligible under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act as specified in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 plan in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(d)1.
 - (1) The school district may administer the Statewide assessments in mathematics to ELLs in their native language, when available, and/or English.
 - (2) The school district shall have the option for a first-year ELL of substituting a NJDOE-approved language proficiency test only for the English language arts component of the Statewide assessment, when the student has entered the United States after June 1 of the calendar year prior to the test administration.
 - b. The school district shall ensure students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 participate in Statewide assessments in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.10.



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- c. At specific times prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, the school district shall administer the alternative State assessment for students with disabilities to students with severe disabilities who cannot participate in other assessments due to the severity of their disabilities in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.1(d)3.
- d. The school district shall implement alternative ways for students to demonstrate graduation proficiency in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1(a)6, (f), (g), (h), or (i), as applicable.
- 3. Test Administration Procedures and Security Measures
 - a. The school district shall be responsible for ensuring the security of all components of the Statewide assessment system that are administered within the school district.
 - b. All Statewide assessments shall be administered in accordance with the NJDOE's required test administration procedures and security measures.
 - c. Any breach of such procedures or measures shall be immediately reported to the Superintendent or designee.
- B. Documentation of Student Achievement N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.2
 - 1. After each test administration, the NJDOE shall provide the Superintendent the following:
 - a. Rosters of student performance in each content area;
 - b. Individual student reports; and
 - c. School and school district summary data, including school and school district means, numbers tested, and percent achieving at each performance level.
 - (1) The school district summary data shall be aggregated and disaggregated, and school summary data shall be disaggregated, for students with disabilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3 and for ELLs.



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- 2. The school district shall transmit within ten business days any official records, including transcripts, of students who transfer to other school districts or institutions.
- 3. The school district shall maintain an accurate record of each student's performance on Statewide assessments.

C. Accountability – N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.3

- 1. The Superintendent shall report final results of annual assessments to the Board and members of the public at a public meeting within sixty days of receipt of the information from the NJDOE.
- 2. The Superintendent shall provide educators, parents, and students with results of annual assessments as required under N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.2(a) and B.1. above, within thirty days of receipt of information from the NJDOE.
- 3. The school district shall provide appropriate instruction to improve skills and knowledge for students performing below the established levels of student proficiency in any content area either on the Statewide or local assessments.
- 4. All students shall be expected to demonstrate the knowledge and skills of the NJSLS as measured by the Statewide assessment system.

D. Annual Review and Evaluation of School Districts – N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.4

- 1. The NJDOE shall review the performance of the school and school district by using a percent of students performing at the proficient level as one measure of annual measurable objective (AMO) and incorporating a progress criterion indicative of systemic reform.
 - a. The review shall include the performance of all students, including students with disabilities as defined by N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3, students from major racial and ethnic groups, economically disadvantaged students, and ELLs.
 - b. The review shall take place at each grade level in which Statewide assessments are administered, using the AMO targets.



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E. Public Reporting – N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.5

- 1. In accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.5, the NJDOE shall report annually to the New Jersey State Board of Education and the public on the progress of all students and student subgroups in meeting the NJSLS as measured by the Statewide assessment system by publishing and distributing the NJDOE's annual New Jersey School Report Card in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7E-2 through 5.
- 2. After each test administration, the NJDOE shall report to the Board on the performance of all students and of student subgroups.

F. Parental Notification

Parents shall be informed of the school district assessment system and of any special tests that are to be administered to their children.

Adopted: 17 September 2014

