

AN UPDATE FROM STATEWIDE TESTING – SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

TOPICS	IMPORTANT DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017 Assessment Results • Longitudinal Reporting Virtual Focus Groups • Upcoming WIDA Webinars • Science Simulation Pilot • ESSA Progress Indicator and ALDs • Arts Standards Review • Testing Terminology: Assessment Words of the Month 	<p>Sept. 28: <i>Science Benchmark Report Presentation through the Southwest West Central Service Co-op</i></p> <p>Oct. 6: <i>Teacher Newsletter distributed</i></p>

These articles are from MDE's Assessment Update. Contact your District Assessment Coordinator with questions.

2017 Assessment Results

Individual Student Reports (ISRs) arrived in districts on Aug. 7. Statewide assessment results are now available in the [Minnesota Report Card](#) (MDE website > Data Center > Minnesota Report Card). The data is also available in the [Assessment and Growth Files](#) (MDE website > Data Center > Data Reports and Analytics).

Longitudinal Reporting Virtual Focus Groups

Pearson is seeking participants to take part in the Longitudinal Reporting virtual focus groups this fall. Feedback from these short sessions will be used to improve user experience and inform future enhancement decisions. If you are interested, contact the Pearson help desk at (888) 817-8659 or [submit a Pearson help desk request](#).

Upcoming WIDA Webinars

WIDA will offer a webinar on the topic of 2017 score changes on Sept. 7 at 11 a.m., and again on Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. WIDA will share insights and answer questions about how 2017 ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 scores can be used to address local needs related to planning, instruction, and test preparation. Registration is not required; see the [ACCESS Webinar Schedule](#) (wida.us > Assessment > ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 > Preparation & Training).

Science Simulation Pilot

Throughout the 2017–2018 school year, Pearson and MDE are looking for schools and districts to help pilot a series of science simulations that collect “activity stream” data from student actions. Contact Lauren Meyer at lauren.meyer@pearson.com with questions.

ESSA Progress Indicator and ALDs

[Using the New ESSA Progress Indicator to Inform Instruction](#) (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)) includes information on how the [Achievement Level Descriptors \(ALDs\)](#) (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing > Achievement Level Descriptors) relate to the MCA achievement levels. MDE has developed an [e-learning module](#) and [overview document](#) that provides an overview of ESSA.

Arts Standards Review

The 2008 Minnesota K–12 Academic Standards in the Arts are being reviewed and revised during the 2017–2018 school year. For more information, visit the [MDE Arts page](#) (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Academic Standards (K-12) > Arts). The deadline for applying to the committee is Tuesday, Sept. 19. [Apply for the Arts Standards Committee](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FTLMWFZ) (www.surveymonkey.com/r/FTLMWFZ).

Testing Terminology: Assessment Words of the Month

- **Achievement Level:** Minnesota has four achievement levels on the Standards-Based Accountability Assessments: Does Not Meet, Partially Meets, Meets, and Exceeds the Standards.
- **Achievement Level Descriptor (ALD):** A description of what a student can typically do when the student’s score on a test falls within one of the four achievement levels. For more information, visit the [Achievement Level Descriptors \(ALDs\) page](#) (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing > Achievement Level Descriptors).

Statewide Testing’s mission statement: To design, develop, and implement a system of assessment so Minnesota students, parents, teachers, administrators, legislators, and taxpayers will have access to valid and reliable data to support and improve education in Minnesota.



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