![Minnesota Department of Education logo] **Assessment Update**

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Release of Test Results Summary Delayed

This morning, District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) were informed in a direct communication that embargoed summarized assessment results were **not** released in Test Results Summary in Secure Reports on the Secure Reports page of the MDE website.

Direct communication will be sent to DACs when Test Results Summary have been posted. It will also be announced in the *Assessment Update*.

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New DAC Reporting Training 2

The *New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Results Summary Reports and Public Reporting* training will be held tomorrow Thursday, July 28, from 2–3:30 p.m. A recorded version of the training will be posted on July 29 to the Training Management System (TMS). Register for the New DAC Reporting Training 2.

This is the second of two trainings geared to new DACs about reporting. The first training was held virtually on June 30, and a recorded training is available in the TMS on the District Assessment Coordinator tab under MDE Recorded Webinars. The prerequisites for the second training are completion of *New DAC Reporting Training 1*, Chapter 11 of the *Procedures Manual*, and the *Appropriate and Inappropriate Uses of MCA and ACCESS Results*

infographics available on the [District Resources](#) page of the MDE website under the Test Score Interpretation Resources expandable heading.

Accountability System Updates and Key Dates

On March 2, 2022, the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) submitted to the U.S. Department of Education an amendment to Minnesota's state plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The proposed changes were developed after engaging with community organizations, educators, and school and district leaders followed by a public comment period.

The amendment was revised based on requirements from the U.S. Department of Education and was approved on July 1, 2022. The final, approved amendment includes multiple changes to the state's accountability system. Some of these are temporary changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on the availability and quality of data, and some are changes that community members, educators, and school and district leaders have been requesting since the initial approval of Minnesota's ESSA state plan in 2018.

Review the [overview summarizing the amendment's changes](#). The entire state plan is available on the [Minnesota State Plan](#) page of the MDE website.

Two webinars to discuss the changes and review this summer's accountability data release schedule will be held in early August. Additional webinar opportunities will be offered closer to the Aug. 25 public release date.

Upcoming Scheduled Webinars

- Thursday, Aug. 4, from 4–5 p.m. [Join the Aug. 4 webinar on Microsoft Teams](#).

- Tuesday, Aug. 9, from 8–9 a.m. [Join the Aug. 9 webinar on Microsoft Teams](#).

Key Dates for Accountability

- Aug. 8: Schools and districts receive secure local accountability data; accountability appeals window begins.

- Aug. 12: Accountability appeals window closes.

- Aug. 23: Schools and districts receive embargoed accountability summary data for the entire state.

- Aug. 24: Media receive embargoed accountability summary data.

- Aug. 25: Public release of final assessment and accountability results.

Please contact Michael Diedrich (michael.diedrich@state.mn.us, 507-269-0427) with any questions.

District Testing Calendar

Districts are required to post a comprehensive testing calendar on the district website **before** the first day of the school year; this information may also be posted on school-level websites if the district chooses. Districts may choose how to display the information (for example, in a chart or a calendar format), but it should be presented in a way that is as easy to access as possible. Core requirements for the district testing calendar have not changed and are detailed in the *Procedures Manual*, starting on page 121.

If a district has not yet established specific dates when students will be testing, MDE recommends using previous years' timeframes as a starting place and then updating them as schedules are known or changed.

PearsonAccess Next Reports: Planned Unavailability

In preparation for loading the MCA and MTAS 2022 reporting data in PearsonAccess Next, the following data will be unavailable Aug. 1–24:

- Longitudinal Reports in PearsonAccess Next (login required) under Reports > Longitudinal Reports.

- Historical Student Data in PearsonAccess Next (login required) under Reports > Historical Student Data.

- Subscore Reports on the Subscore Reports page of the PearsonAccess Next website.

All current Longitudinal Reports, Historical Student Data, and Subscore Reports will again be available on Aug. 25.

Odds and Ends

Virginie Sanchez, who answers the majority of the phone calls and emails districts have about testing, will be out of the office Aug. 1–19. During this time, other assessment staff will be answering questions from districts sent to mde.testing@state.mn.us, and you may see a delayed response time.

Upcoming Opportunities

August Q&A Webinar for New DACs

The August Q&A Webinar for New DACs will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 9, from 2–3 p.m. It will focus on reporting and topics addressed in the *New DAC Reporting Training 2: Test Summary Reports and Public Reporting*.

Experienced DACs are also welcome to attend. Register for the August Q&A Webinar for New DACs. Registrants will receive a form to collect questions prior to the event.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

Minnesota Department of Education

education.mn.gov > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing

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