mn DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Assessment Update

QUICK LINKS	IMPORTANT DATES
	May 21–June 8: Posttest Editing window in Test WES *June 25:* Embargoed final math, reading, and science DSR and SSR files available

Posttest Editing Pilot Feedback Needed

MDE has developed a survey for districts to provide feedback on whether or not they were able to complete Posttest Editing in the first two weeks of the three week window. As the end of the second week of Posttest Editing approaches, MDE is encouraging **all** districts to provide feedback after they are completely done with Posttest Editing. Providing feedback is voluntary; however, MDE will be making a decision about shortening the Posttest Editing window to two weeks based on results of the pilot and the feedback, and the decision will need to be followed by all districts.

Please complete the Posttest Editing Pilot District Feedback after you complete Posttest Editing and by June 15.

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Posttest Editing Reminders

The following resources are available for districts working on Posttest Editing:

- *Test WES Posttest Editing User Guide 2017–18* (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Business and Finance > Data Submissions > Test WES)

- Recording of the *MDE New DAC Posttest Editing Training*, which is posted in the [Training Management System (TMS)](#) (PearsonAccess Next > Resources & Training > Training) on the District Assessment Coordinator page; MDE Recorded Webinars category

District Confirmation

Once you complete Posttest Editing, confirm it on the District Confirmation page in Test WES:

- You must complete this confirmation if there were no edits needed for your district.
- You can also complete this confirmation to let MDE know that all posttest editing is final.

Note: The District Confirmations page is under Pretest Edit on the Dashboard.

Creating Blank Assessments to Indicate Test/Accountability Codes

To indicate a test/accountability code, use the Add Blank Assessment function to create a blank record. For step-by-step instructions, see page 27 of the *[Posttest Editing User Guide](#)*. Before adding any blank assessments, verify that you have already resolved all assessment errors or other warnings.

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) Students

Full-time PSEO students are not required to test and generally will not show up as discrepancies in Test WES if indicated correctly in MARSS. In special cases in which the district pays the college directly, a discrepancy will exist in Posttest Editing for the student. In these cases, districts submit a File Exchange in Test WES with the required information to indicate PSEO. See page 26 of the *[Posttest Editing User Guide](#)* for full details.

Note: Do not add a blank assessment for these PSEO students as the discrepancy will be resolved by MDE. The exception cannot be added to a blank assessment.

Clarification on Sharing Preliminary and Embargoed Results

Last week's *Assessment Update* included the revised policy allowing districts to share preliminary and embargoed with school officials, such as school board members or charter school authorizers, if the district chooses.

Part of this policy includes the requirement that these school officials must sign a district data privacy and nondisclosure agreement if they will have access to these results in any form. This requirement is specific to school officials, and not all district and school staff. Districts should follow their district data privacy policies for district and school staff access to preliminary and embargoed results.

Returning Secure Materials: Missing Barcode Report

A Missing Barcode Report is available for download in PearsonAccess Next under Published Reports for districts who have (or had) missing materials. This report will include any secure test materials for MCA and MTAS that have not been returned to Pearson. If there is no report available for your district, then your district returned all secure test materials on time.

A report will only be generated if there was at least one missing secure test material not scanned at Pearson by May 14; only schools that have missing secure test materials will be included on the report. Once all missing secure test materials are received and scanned at Pearson, the school or district tab will include the message "All secure test materials have been returned."

For more information, refer to *Viewing Shipment Information and Ordering Additional Materials* (PearsonAccess Next > Resources & Training > User Guides).

MCA Testing Time Reports

MCA Testing Time Reports provide cumulative testing time information by student, and are now available for the 2018 MCA test administration. Districts can use these reports to plan future administrations by confirming the amount of time students tested or to identify trends by grade or subject across the district.

District Assessment Coordinators can request a report of testing times for the spring 2018 test administration by contacting the Pearson help desk at 888-817-8659 or submit a Pearson help desk request. Districts can expect the report to be available four to five business days after the request is made.

Summer Advisory Panelists Needed

As summer approaches, MDE needs more qualified teachers for the MCA advisory panels. Summer is a great time for teachers to participate in an additional professional development opportunity, and stipends and travel reimbursements are available.

Please send information about this opportunity and the link to the Advisory Panels webpage (MDE website > Districts, Schools and Educators > Teaching and Learning > Statewide Testing > Register for Advisory Panels) to interested staff.

Data and Research Analyst Job Opening at MDE (repeat)

MDE is hiring a data and research analyst to work on the following tasks:

- Manage, develop, and implement data and reporting options related to MDE data for use in agency-wide decision making.
- Develop processes for aligning data-driven decision making options with policy initiatives by collaborating with district curriculum/administration staff and MDE content specialists.
- Provide consultation and data analysis for state policy makers and local school districts on MDE research initiatives and program evaluation studies.

[Use this link to view full details and to apply](#), or visit the [Minnesota Careers website](#) (mn.gov/mmb/careers) and search for job ID 23675. The application deadline is June 8.

A+ Education Conference (repeat)

GTS Education Events will host the A+ Education Conference on Aug. 9 at the St. Paul Rivercentre. This is an all-day event focused on transforming systems and practice through the relevant use of assessment. Topics will include implementing ESSA with the new accountability indicators, building effective learning cultures, and promoting equity to meet the needs of all students. [Registration](#) is now open (www.mngts.org/aplus). Group discounts and early bird pricing has been extended to be available through June 4.

Upcoming Opportunities

New DAC Q&A Webinar

The June Q&A Webinar for New DACs will be on Tuesday, June 19 from 2–3 p.m. The prerequisites for the webinar are to read Chapter 10 of the *Procedures Manual* (PearsonAccess Next > Resources & Training > Policies and Procedures) and a forthcoming introduction to the District and School Student Results (DSR/SSR) file training, which will be posted in early June. More information about the DSR/SSR training, as well as a registration link to the webinar, will be included in a future *Assessment Update*.

SLEDS Research and Data Committee

The SLEDS Research and Data Committee is seeking additional K–12 members. The Committee is comprised of members from K–12, Postsecondary, and Workforce sectors. The group meets six times per year for two hours, generally on the first Thursday afternoon in July, October, December, February, April, and June.

The main duties of committee members are as follows:

- Provide feedback on research requests and make recommendations for approval to the Executive Committee.
- Review communications products and new reports posted on the SLEDS mobile analytics site.
- Participate in discussions about data sources, P20W policies, and IT work.

If you work for a school or district and would be interested in participating, please email Kara Arzamendia at kara.arzamendia@state.mn.us.

Educator Data Training and Focus Groups

MDE will conduct a free training and focus group for the new teacher website (Testing 1, 2, 3). Although the website will not be fully completed, the demo site will be ready for feedback. In addition, Pearson will be joining MDE at the workshop to gather feedback on the redesign of the Benchmark Reports. Registration will be limited to the first 10 classroom teachers and first 10 non-classroom educators. Please use the table below to register.

Training City	Date	Link to Register
Roseville	Tuesday, June 12	Register for the workshop at the Radisson in Roseville.
Marshall	Wednesday, June 13	Register for the Southwest West Central Service Cooperative workshop.
North Mankato	Thursday, June 14	Register for the South Central Service Cooperative workshop.
Rochester	Friday, June 15	Register for the Southeast Service Cooperative workshop.
Sartell	Monday, June 18	Register for the Resource Training and Solutions workshop.
Staples	Tuesday, June 19	Register for the National Joint Powers Alliance workshop.
Fergus Falls	Wednesday, June 20	Register for the Lakes Country Service Cooperative workshop.
Thief River Falls	Thursday, June 21	Register for the Northwest Service Cooperative workshop.
Hermantown	Friday, June 22	Register for the Hermantown workshop.

Odds and Ends

- **PearsonAccess Next Survey**: The brief survey that Pearson emailed to all PearsonAccess Next users will close June 1. Please encourage participation in your district.

Statewide Testing: Measuring Educational Progress in Minnesota

Minnesota Department of Education

education.state.mn.us > Districts, Schools and Educators > Statewide Testing

If you have any questions or want to unsubscribe, please send an email to mde.testing@state.mn.us