

Assessment & Accountability Announcements - Week of October 1, 2012

Please see **4 IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) The September 2012 Issue of *Smarter News* Is Now Available, 2) 2012-13 Accountability Tour of Informational Presentations, 3) MEAP and MEAP-Access AMO Status, and 4) REMINDER: EXPLORE-PLAN Ordering Begins Monday.

1) The September 2012 Issue of *Smarter News* Is Now Available

The September 2012 issue of *Smarter News* – the monthly newsletter from the Smarter Balanced Assessment consortium (SBAC) – is now available. To access the newsletter, please click the link below:

<http://smarterbalanced.cmail1.com/t/ViewEmail/r/DD1B795B6E1E2600/2C6463F20F003B3A74AF8F7A76570606>

2) 2012-13 Accountability Tour of Informational Presentations

The Office of Psychometrics, Accountability, Research, & Evaluation (OPARE) is excited to again conduct a statewide “Accountability Tour” during the late fall and early winter months to bring the latest accountability-related updates to districts and schools across the state. We have selected various locations to hold informational sessions about topics relevant to district, school and teacher accountability. We will be conducting identical sessions at the locations listed in this announcement.

To sign up for a tour date, please register at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/accountabilitytour>.

Event materials are available at:

www.michigan.gov/baa-accountability.

Topics to be Covered:

- **NEW!** Accountability Scorecard (Formerly Adequate Yearly Progress)
- **UPDATED!** Educator Evaluations and the Teacher Student Data Link (TSDL)
- **UPDATED!** Accountability Best Practices, Timelines & Requirements
- **UPDATED!** School Rankings and Designations (Top-to-Bottom Ranking, Priority, Focus, and Reward School designations)

Accountability Tour Format:

- 8AM-12PM Presentations
- 12PM-1PM Lunch Break (Lunch **NOT** provided)
- 1PM-3PM Workshop(s)

Accountability Tour Locations Statewide:

- 10/23/12 Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD - Sault Ste. Marie, MI
- 10/24/12 Marquette-Alger RESA - Marquette, MI (this presentation will have simultaneous broadcast to other UP ISDs)
- 11/05/12 Westwood School District - Dearborn Heights, MI
- 11/13/12 Wexford-Missaukee ISD - Cadillac, MI

- 11/26/12 Kent ISD - Grand Rapids, MI
- 11/29/12 Saginaw ISD - Saginaw, MI
- 12/04/12 State Of Michigan Board of Education Room - Lansing, MI
- 12/06/12 Calhoun ISD - Marshall, MI
- 12/10/12 Oakland Schools - Waterford, MI

To sign up for a tour date, please register at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/accountabilitytour>.

When the tour sessions reach full capacity, they will be unavailable for further registration.

We will be recording the session held in the State of Michigan Board of Education Room for those unable to attend any of the other scheduled dates and times. The recorded session will be available on www.mistreamnet.org. Questions or comments can be directed to MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov or (517) 373-1342.

3) MEAP and MEAP-Access Additional Material Order Status

This year, we have experienced an extraordinary number of additional material orders (AMOs). The assessment contractor for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) and MEAP-Access is working overtime packing and shipping AMOs and priority is being given to AMOs for reading since reading testing begins next week Tuesday. AMOs already placed for reading materials will arrive by **Monday, October 8, 2012**.

The contractor will continue to pack and ship AMOs for the remaining subjects as quickly as possible. Please do not panic and re-order materials. AMO shipments can be tracked online using the "Add'l Material Orders" button along the left side of the BAA Secure Site main webpage (after secure login). Instructions to track orders can be found in the *BAA Secure Site User Manual* at: <https://baa.state.mi.us/secure/>.

4) Spring 2013 EXPLORE-PLAN Pilot Ordering Begins Monday

This is a reminder that your opportunity to complete the online district participation agreement and order materials for the Spring 2013 EXPLORE-PLAN Pilot begins Monday, **October 8, 2012**. There are some important changes to the pilot this year, so please review the project announcement and critical dates available on the BAA webpage at:

Project Announcement

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/FINAL_2013_Explore_Plan_Pilot_Announcement_399192_7.pdf

Checklist of Critical Dates

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Checklist_of_Critical_Dates_PLAN-EXPLORE_399193_7.pdf

Questions?

Please email us at baa@michigan.gov or call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.