

Spotlight

on Student Assessment and Accountability

August 25, 2016

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M-STEP and MME Parent Reports and Student Record Labels Are On the Way

Shipment of the M-STEP and MME Parent Reports and Student Record Labels has begun. Schools can anticipate the arrival of their students' Parent Reports and Student Record Labels within the next two weeks.

Parent Reports are to be distributed by the school to student parents or guardians; Student Record Labels are intended to be used as labels for student records.

The MDE has developed resources for schools to use when explaining these reports to parents:

- M-STEP: WHAT IT IS, WHAT IT MEANS – AND WHAT IT OFFERS
- Sample Presentations to local Boards of Education, parents, and community groups
- M-STEP District Talking Points-reporting
- Sample Letter to Parents
- Sample Press Release Announcing District M-STEP Score Results

All of these documents—and many more!—are in the M-STEP Communications Toolkit which is located on the [M-STEP web page](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep) (www.michigan.gov/mstep).

REMINDER – The Spring 2016 assessment reports and data are **EMBARGOED** until the public release of results later this summer. Districts and schools will be notified through the Spotlight on Student Assessment and Accountability Newsletter when the embargo has been lifted.

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Key:  Reminder

► [Sign up for Spotlight](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight) today! Enter your email address and select Spotlight under Student Assessment.

IMPORTANT – While individual student results – such as Parent Reports – may be shared with parents at this time, it is NOT permissible to share any school, district, or state-level results with parents, the community, or other external parties until the embargo is lifted by the MDE. School Board meetings are considered open meetings; therefore, the sharing of embargoed assessment results at these meetings is not permissible until the embargo is lifted.

Please Note: MI-Access Parent Reports and Student Record Labels will be delivered in early September.

Fall 2016 WIDA Workshops Registration is Now Open

The Division of Accountability Services and WIDA are offering four free workshops this fall that may be of interest to school improvement teams, Title III directors, English Learner (EL) educators, building-level administrators, WIDA test coordinators, and content area teachers. The workshops are designed to offer in-depth training for administering the assessments and using the student achievement results in meaningful and appropriate ways for instructional and school improvement purposes. For more information and to register for a workshop, go to the [Fall 2016 WIDA Workshops Registration page](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops) (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fall2016WIDAworkshops>). Space is limited, so early registration is recommended.

The workshops and dates are:

- **Workshops 1 and 2: Interpreting WIDA Score Reports for Instruction**

The ACCESS for ELLs Score Reports provide specific information on students' academic English language proficiency. In this one-day workshop, participants will examine the different types of reports, their connection to the WIDA

English Language Development Standards Framework, and how these reports can serve as a tool to initiate discussion on instruction.

Districts should consider sending teams comprised of WIDA test coordinators, EL teachers, and content area teachers.

Workshop 1 and 2 Dates: **Monday, October 17** OR **Tuesday, October 18, 2016** (same workshop is offered both days – register for one workshop) **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

- **Workshop 3: WIDA Workshop for School Leaders: Leading Schools for Language Learner Achievement**

This two-day workshop will engage school leaders in reflection and in planning leadership actions that will build vision, learning processes, and systems to support language learner achievement. Participants will consider how **opportunity to learn** and the **academic language development of ELs** is directly supported by:

- (a) Engaging Students in Collaborative Learning;
- (b) Supporting Systematic Teacher Collaboration
- (c) Focusing on Reciprocal Family Engagement
- (d) Sustaining Cross-disciplinary Data Teams Focused on Creating Equitable Systems

School leaders will consult national policy documents and WIDA resources in order to prepare to establish school language policies, implement the WIDA Standards Framework, and capitalize on school improvement processes to support language learner achievement. School leaders will identify next steps toward a school

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improvement process that advances educational opportunity and academic language achievement for language learners. They will synthesize their learning from colleagues and experts in the fields of leadership and language learning and apply it to school-specific action steps.

Districts should consider sending building and district level administrators as well as Title III directors.

Workshop 3 Dates: **Wednesday, November 2, 2016 AND Thursday, November 3, 2016** (2-day workshop) **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

- **Workshop 4: WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs**

The Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is an assessment of English language proficiency (ELP) for students in grades 1–12 who are classified as ELs and who have significant cognitive disabilities that prevent their meaningful participation in the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessment. The test is based on Alternate Model Performance Indicators (AMPs), which provide expectations of what students should be able to process and produce at a given Alternate English Language Proficiency level. In this one-day workshop, participants will work collaboratively to strengthen their understanding of test administration, to understand the underpinnings of the assessment, and to become aware of the resources available after the workshop.

Districts are encouraged to send teams that include EL and special education teachers, and WIDA test coordinators.

Workshop 4 Dates: **Wednesday, November 9, 2016** from **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**



For New Principals and English Learner Assessment Coordinators

If you are a new principal or new English Learner Assessment Coordinator, you may find it helpful to review the following documents available on the MDE [WIDA web page](http://www.michigan.gov/wida) (www.michigan.gov/wida):

- [WIDA ACCESS Placement Test \(W-APT\) Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)
- [WIDA New Principal Primer](#)
- [WIDA New Assessment Coordinator Primer](#)

These documents are designed to give you basic information about the WIDA assessments as well as help you think about how best to plan for important assessment-related activities.

Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment Website and Resources

Arts educators and school and community leaders now have a new set of tools and resources available to help them implement high quality arts education programming in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts for all kindergarten through 12th grade students. The **Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment (MAEIA)** project grew out of collaboration between the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC), and Data Recognition Corporation (DRC).

One key MAEIA resource is a set of voluntary model assessments that K-12 arts educators can use to authentically assess student learning in all grade levels and content areas in the arts. MAEIA's online catalogue of 350 project-based assessments is one of the largest in the nation, meaning teachers can choose the best performance tasks to fit their curricula and

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instruction. All assessments are curriculum-embedded and aligned to Michigan Standards and National Core Arts Anchor Standards (NCAAS).

These individual and small group performance assessments are intended to be used periodically throughout the school year to document student performance, for use in improving instruction and learning. MAEIA assessments also have the potential to support the effectiveness of arts educators.

Take action!

- For more details about the MAEIA launch, read [MAEIA Website and Resources Now Available](#) on the [MAEIA website](#) (<http://maeia-artsednetwork.org>). Go to **About US** → **What's New**.
- Explore [MAEIA's new website](#) to access the model assessments and other MAEIA resources (program improvement, professional learning, and more!).
- Contact Holly Erb at 517-816-4520 with questions or to learn more.
- [Join the MAEIA community](#) (<http://maeia-artsednetwork.org/join-the-conversation/>) to learn, grow, connect, and contribute to an ongoing conversation about quality K-12 arts education.

Updated Tools for Schools: Reporting the 2016 M-STEP Results

Local districts have several new tools available to help them discuss and share their results from the 2016 Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) and Michigan Merit Exam (MME).

The **M-STEP/MME Parent Report Video**, now updated for 2016, visually walks viewers through the M-STEP/MME parent reports. The [video](#) is now posted on Michigan Department of Education's YouTube site. It can also be accessed on the [M-STEP web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/mstep) under **Parent/Student Information**.

The **M-STEP Data Release Communications Tool Kit**, also updated for 2016, is available on the [M-STEP web page](#) under **What's New**. The kit includes numerous customizable templates that can be adapted for multiple audiences (e.g., teachers, parents, and the media). The kit also includes several new and updated printable handouts for building/district use, including:

- A new **How to Read a Student Score Report**—Two documents, one for parents of students in [grades 3–8](#) and one for parents of students in [grade 11](#), designed to accompany the student score reports sent to parents.
- A new **Michigan's Alternate Assessment: WHAT IT IS, WHAT IT MEANS — AND WHAT IT OFFERS**—This [one-sheet printable handout](#) provides a helpful overview for parents of students with disabilities who will take the MI-Access tests.

The MDE created these tools to assist in districts' stakeholder engagement activities related to their 2016 M-STEP/MME data results. Direct questions or feedback to Jan Ellis at ellisj@michigan.gov or 517-373-9391.

SAT Corner

Information on SAT™, PSAT 8/9™, and PSAT10™ provided by the College Board



SAT Reminder . . .

Are You Ready?

If you haven't signed up for a Fall Counselor or Implementation Workshop yet, signup today!

The Counselor Workshops are three-hour workshops designed for counselors and will provide important College Board Program updates for the 2016–17 school year, including: SAT Suite of Assessments, how score reports can help students improve their college readiness skills, free official SAT practice on Khan Academy, and upcoming changes to the 2017–18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Register at: www.collegeboard.org/cw.

The SAT and PSAT Implementation Workshops are two-hour workshops for Administrators, Counselors, and Test Center Supervisors to provide updates and changes to the Michigan SAT, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 administrations in the spring of 2017. Learn about preparing for and

administering the College Board exams; find out about the spring implementation timelines; and learn how our professional development offerings can prepare you for Spring 2017. Register at: www.collegeboard.org/satschoolday.

Schedule:

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM: Counselor Workshop Registration and Breakfast
- 9:00 – Noon: Counselor Workshop Presentation
- Noon – 1:00 PM: SAT School Day Implementation Registration and Lunch
- 1:00 – 3:00 PM: SAT School Day Implementation Presentation

Dates and locations for the workshops are listed on the following page.

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Locations for Fall Counselor and Implementation Workshops

Dearborn	Friday, Sept. 30, 2016	University of Michigan-Dearborn
Detroit	Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016	Wayne State University
East Lansing	Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2016	Michigan State University
Grand Rapids	Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016	Northview High School
Jackson	Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016	Jackson Intermediate School District
Kalamazoo	Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016	Western Michigan University-Kalamazoo
Marquette	Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016	Northern Michigan University
Mount Pleasant	Monday, Sept. 26, 2016	Central Michigan University
Saginaw	Monday, Sept. 19, 2016	Saginaw Intermediate School District
Traverse City	Monday, Sept. 19, 2016	Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District
Waterford	Friday, Sept. 16, 2016	Oakland Intermediate School District

Important Dates

Approaching Deadlines!

[Sending Scores Back Program](#)

- **Monday, August 29, 2016 at 5:00 PM:** Deadline to submit applications for the 2016–2017 Sending Scores Back Program. For more information, including the application and other informational resources regarding SEEs/S2E2s, please visit the [Shared Educational Entities web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/sees).

[1% MI-Access Proficiency Cap Exception Applications](#)

- **Monday, August 29, 2016 at 5:00 PM:** Deadline to submit applications for an exception to the 1% MI-Access Proficiency Cap for 2016–17. See the full article on page 3 of the [August 4 Spotlight](#).

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August 2016

Early Literacy and Mathematics

- **Now—September 20, 2016:** Secure Site Online Test Session Setup for the Fall 2016 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments.
- **Now—Friday, October 21, 2016:** Window for Pre-Identification of students who will be taking the Fall 2016 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments.

September 2016

WIDA

- **Friday, September 2, 2016 at 5:00 PM:** Deadline to enter Cycle II and Pre-K Cycle WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT) scores into the Secure Site. 
- **DATE CHANGED! September 14, 2016 at 5:00 PM:** DEADLINE—Student Record Maintenance (SRM) **English Learner (EL) Exits** must be submitted and certified using an [As of Date] on or before June 30, 2016 **AND** an [LEP Exit Date] on or before June 30, 2016.

Early Literacy and Mathematics

- **September 22, 2016 – 3:00 to 4:00 PM: District Building Coordinator Training**—You can join the Skype for Business meeting using this [link](https://meet.lync.com/drc365/smasterson/q1hpmj4y) (https://meet.lync.com/drc365/smasterson/q1hpmj4y). Unlike WebEx, Skype for Business does not have a registration step – users will simply click on the link when it is time for the meeting.

M-STEP, MI-Access, MME, & Early Literacy

- **September 26, 2016 – 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM:** The Student Assessment and Accountability Fall Webcast – streamed live and recorded on [MI Streamnet](http://mistreamnet.com) (http://mistreamnet.com). See the full article on page 1 of the [August 4 Spotlight](#).

October 2016

Early Literacy and Mathematics

- **October 3 – October 21, 2016:** Window for the Fall 2016 Early Literacy and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments for grades 1 and 2.

WIDA

- **Monday, October 17 and Tuesday, October 18, 2016 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** WIDA Workshops for Interpreting WIDA Score Reports for Instruction (register for one day only).

November 2016

WIDA

- **Wednesday, November 2 and Thursday, November 3, 2016 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** WIDA Workshop for School Leaders: Leading Schools for Language Learner Achievement (register for both days).
- **Wednesday, November 9, 2016 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** WIDA Workshop for Alternate ACCESS for ELLs.

► Access previous [Spotlight editions](#) (www.michigan.gov/mde-spotlight)

Have Other Questions?

For assessment questions, please email BAA@michigan.gov.

For accountability questions, please email MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov.

For phone assistance with assessment or accountability issues, call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.