Transition to the Next Generation of Statewide Assessments

New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE)

Location
Date

Please note that this Powerpoint Presentation has been modified from its original version to be made accessible. These slides were used as a presentation during May and June 2018 at multiple locations during the New Jersey Department of Education’s “Assessment Outreach Tour.”
Welcome, Thank You, Introductions

• The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) supports schools and districts to ensure New Jersey’s 1.4 million students have equitable access to high quality education and that they achieve academic excellence.

• Our conversation today will help shape improvements to the quality of education for all New Jersey students.
Agenda

• Introductions/Feedback Round I (Do now)
• Statewide Assessment in New Jersey
• Feedback Round II
Why We Are Here Today

- We want to understand what aspects of statewide assessments are most important to our communities to establish priorities for change going forward
- Public input will inform recommendations regarding
  - Short-term changes, including assessment as a graduation requirement
  - Plans for addressing the more complex priorities
Meeting Norms and Expectations

• Always listen and stay engaged
• Step up, step back
  • Make sure everybody’s voice is heard
• Stay on topic
• Ask questions!
  • Ask about unfamiliar terminology
• Respect each others’ experiences and opinions
Feedback: Round 1

• Before planning where to go with Statewide Assessment, we would like you to reflect on where we are regarding our current assessment for ELA and Math: PARCC

• PARCC testing has engendered many reactions from stakeholders across New Jersey
  • Use the Blue Stickies to describe what is good about PARCC
  • Use the Gold Stickies to describe what is wrong with PARCC
Agenda

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Charting the Path Forward

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Collaborative and Community Meetings
Statewide Assessments Continually Evolve

• Since 1978, state and federal laws have required that New Jersey administer statewide assessments in public schools to ensure that all students are making progress through educational standards.

1978
• Public School Education Act
• Minimum Basic Skills Assessment (MBS)

1988
• High School Proficiency Test 11 (HSPT11) replaces MBS as graduation requirement

1996
• New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards adopted

2001
• No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
• High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) replaces HSPT11 as graduation requirement

2010
• Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers Consortium (PARCC) is established

2015 - Present
• PARCC assessments replace HSPA as graduation requirement
Key State Assessment Requirements

States must administer standards aligned assessments:

• To all students in English Language arts (ELA) and the mathematics in grade 3 through 8, and once in high school. Assessments must be approved by the U.S. Department of Education through a peer-review process (PARCC*)

• In science at least once in elementary, middle, and high school (NJSLA-S)

• To English language learners to demonstrate progress toward English language development (ACCESS to ELLs 2.0)

• To students with the most significant cognitive disabilities for whom general state assessments are not appropriate, even with accommodations (Dynamic Learning Maps*)

• *Peer-reviewed assessments

• Although these assessments are mandated by federal law, delivering information to students, families, and educators to provide insight into student performance and generate actionable feedback that leads to improved teaching and learning is strongly aligned to the NJDOE mission.
A Single Piece of the Puzzle

• Statewide Assessment is just one of many ways that schools and districts gather information to better understand the needs of students.
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• Feedback Round II (Do Now)
Guiding Questions

• Why do we assess students? What is the purpose of state assessments?
• How do we use data from assessments? Who uses it?
• Working within our legal requirements, what improvements would you like to see in the next generation of New Jersey assessments?
Thank you!

• New Jersey Department of Education Website
• Feedback, questions, comments, or concerns?
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