



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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August 18, 2020

TO: Read to Achieve Contacts

FROM: David Stegall, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent of Innovation

Tara Galloway, Ph.D.
Director of K-3 Literacy

In an effort to provide Read to Achieve (RtA) guidance and support as you begin the new 2020-2021 school year and provide clarity to some of your questions, please see the following information.

K-3 Formative/Diagnostic Assessment:

Benchmark Dates: The 2020-2021 RtA Formative/Diagnostic Benchmark windows are below. Read to Achieve Legislation requires BOY, MOY, and EOY benchmark assessments be given to all K-3 students. For EVAAS purposes, the state will use MOY to EOY data for K-2 growth for the 2020-2021 school year. The benchmark assessment window must be consistent for all vendors in order to meet the requirements of EVAAS data collection.

Benchmark	Assessment Window
BOY	First 20 instructional days in September
MOY	First 20 instructional days in January
EOY	First 20 instructional days in May

* Instructional days are defined as face to face or remote learning (not including holidays, weekends, teacher workdays, or annual leave days)

Vendor Information: Below is the contact information for each of the 2020-2021 SBE approved formative/diagnostic vendors. Each district/charter is responsible for contacting the vendor of their choice to purchase, roster, and set up the assessment for K-3 students.

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The 2020-2021 State Board of Education K-3 Literacy approved formative/diagnostic assessments must be administered as outlined below:

Vendor Contact	Assessment	Link to Information (Provided by Vendors)	Link to Website (Provided by Vendors)
NWEA Julia Watkins julia.watkins@nwea.org	MAP Growth plus MAP Reading Fluency (Measures of Academic Progress)	NWEA - MAP	www.nwea.org
Renaissance Learning Laurie Boykon Laurie.Boykon@renaissance.com	STAR Early Literacy and STAR Reading must be used in conjunction, and under the vendor's prescribed process, in order to meet the requirements of RTA.	Renaissance - STAR	www.renaissance.com
Istation Cristina Brown cmbrown@istation.com	ISIP-ER (Istation's Indicators of Progress for Early Reading)	Istation - ISIP-ER	www.istation.com
Curriculum Associates Kelly Petty KPetty@cainc.com	iReady	Curriculum Associates - iReady	https://www.curriculumassociates.com/products/i-ready/i-ready-assessment
Amplify Sean McFall smcfall@amplify.com	mCLASS TRC and DIBELS must be used in order to meet the requirements of RTA	Amplify - mClass Acadience Reading with TRC	https://amplify.com/north-carolina/

NOTE: 7/14/20 DHHS Guidance requires at all times in a classroom: both (i) six feet of distance between a student and a teacher and (ii) face coverings worn by students. In addition to remote learning use, districts should keep these requirements in mind when selecting the most practical tools for this school year.

Fourth Grade Assessment:

As stated in legislation, the fourth grade assessment must be given "no later than the tenth day that school buildings are open to students for the 2020-2021 school year". The assessment can be given remotely. If operating under Plan C, it is not required for districts to wait until the students are back in the buildings in person if districts have the capability to assess students remotely. The objective of the assessment is to understand the reading and literacy skills of upcoming fourth grade students who missed the EOY assessment in order to provide effective instructional support. The intent of the legislation and the goal is to assess incoming fourth grade students within the first ten days of school, whether opening in Plan B (remote and face to face) or Plan C (remote) to the greatest extent possible.

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Please provide information in the survey to indicate district/charter plans for completing assessment requirements. Using the link, [Fourth Grade Assessment Survey](#), please indicate which assessment was used, completion date, and under which plan (remote or face to face) no later than **Friday, September 4, 2020**. For situations in which the 4th grade assessment is not given within the first 10 days of school, regardless of Plan B or Plan C, please provide justification on the survey. Thank you in advance for completing this survey.

Please note: For the one time fourth grade assessment, districts should select from the [SBE Approved Read to Achieve Local Alternative Assessment List](#) (updated every September) or from the 2020-2021 State Board of Education approved K-3 Literacy formative/diagnostic assessment chart (above). Charter schools maintain their current assessment flexibility and may use a diagnostic system from the list or one of their own choosing.

Please share this information with your district leaders, school administrators, and teachers. If you have any questions or need further clarification regarding information contained in this memo, please contact Tara Galloway at tara.galloway@dpi.nc.gov.

cc: Mark Johnson, State Superintendent
Dr. Bev Emory, Deputy Superintendent of District and Regional Support
Dr. Tammy Howard, Director, Accountability
Sherry Thomas, Director, Exceptional Children
Dave Machado, Director, Office of Charter Schools
Dr. Angie Mullennix, Director, K-12 Academics and Innovation Strategy