

Assessment Update #1

6/18/2009

Dear Assessment Directors,

I am excited to serve as your new State Assessment Director and look forward to working with each of you. I have listed below some informational items. Please feel free to contact me or any of the assessment staff if you have any questions or concerns about them. I look forward to meeting with you in August.

1. August Assessment Directors Meeting

We will have regional Assessment Directors meetings in August (please see schedule below). Immediately following the regional Assessment Directors meetings, we will participate in a combined meeting with curriculum where assessment and curriculum directors will be given opportunity to express to USOE staff specific needs and suggestions

Regional Assessment Directors meetings 9-10 am.

Optional combined input meetings with curriculum 10:00–12:30 am.

August 10, 2009

Box Elder District Office

August 11, 2009

Canyons District Office

August 12, 2009

Carbon District Office

August 13, 2009

Cedar City, TBA

A full day meeting for new assessment directors will be held on August 14, information about this meeting and the yearly assessment meeting schedule will be included in the next Assessment Update in two weeks.

2. CBT

100% CBT Testing: We are looking at moving some tests to 100% CBT next year. We need your input. Please take a moment and go to the following link to a complete a five minute survey about which tests should be considered.

Survey Link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=819zOfye9_2bLorNx_2fQ30LGA_3d_3d

Data Windows: All data windows (except for LEAs with year round) will be closed today.

2009-2010: We are working toward providing trimester and semester CRTs via CBT, beginning next year and will have an update for you in August. If you plan to administer CRTs during a trimester or semester window during 2009-2010, and have concerns with doing so via computer, please contact Julie Quinn.

We will have information about expectations for 2010 participation, as well as provide an update on our timeline for finalizing technical specifications at the August meeting.

CBT Committee: Thanks for your assistance in organizing this committee. We are in the process of finalizing the members, and will distribute the list as soon as it is available. The committee will begin meeting this summer and will aide in resolving CBT issues and navigating the course for CBT.

3. UTIPS

Attached to this email is a document that was recently discussed at a UTIPS Steering Committee meeting. It outlines the future of UTIPS..

A number of you have asked about the UTIPS User's Group. Jared Orton (jared.orton@nebo.edu) and James Christensen (james.christensen@cues.k12.ut.us) are the User's Group Co-Chairs, and can answer any questions you have about that group, we encourage your participation.

4. RFPs

We currently are in the process of completing the following RFPs: ELP, Math/ELA and Online Writing. Please know each RFP process is intended to be transparent and our desire is always to secure the best product/vendor at the best cost. We will notify you as soon as each process is completed and a vendor/product is selected.

Thanks for reading through the information. My current plan is to continue to send out a regular Assessment Update. This would be sent weekly during the school year, and twice monthly during the summer. Please know your comments, concerns, opinions and suggestions are always welcome and appreciated

Thanks,

John Jesse

Assessment Director

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