Reminders and updates for 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 State Assessments:

2013-2014

Overview documents for the 2013-2014 assessments are posted on the assessment page of the KSDE website. http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=420 These documents provide a quick reference for timelines and grade levels for assessments to be administered this year. Additional documents related to assessments are also posted on this site. Below is a detailed summary of assessments for 2013-2014 followed by plans for the future.

A) For ELA and mathematics students in grades 3-8 and high school will be taking a "transitional assessment" being developed by CETE aligned to the Kansas College and Career Ready Standards (KCCRS).

   In high school, the only students who are **required to be assessed** are 11th grade students who have not already achieved "meets standard" or above. However, KSDE and CETE are requesting that districts assess all 11th grade students, 12th grade students and 10th grade students on the Transitional Assessments. Assessing these high school grade levels will benefit schools with the following:

   (1) Providing districts with feedback on student progress on the College and Career Ready Standards.
   (2) Providing juniors and seniors with insight into College and Career Ready academic expectations.
   (3) Providing sophomores with an advance look at academic expectations for the 2015 assessments.
   (4) Providing CETE high school assessment data necessary for setting valid cut scores for 2014 and for validating test items for future use in formative or summative assessments.

   Testing 11th grade students in 2014 will **NOT** change the accountability policy of using banked scores from 2013. That is, 2014 juniors with proficient banked scores from 2013 who take the Transitional Assessment will have their banked scores used for accountability. **Sophomores** who take the 2014 Transitional Assessment will **not have any scores banked** and will be required to take the new assessment in 2015.

B) Students in grades 4, 7 and 11 will take the "old "science assessment. For high school, only 11th grade students who have not completed both parts of the science assessment will take the assessment. We will **not** be assessing **9th** or **10th** grade students.

C) Students qualifying for **alternate** assessments:
   (1) Will take the DLM field test for ELA and mathematics. That will be administered in three short sections in three different test windows. Students will take all three parts. Again, at the high school level, only 11th grade students who have not yet "met standard" are required to take the assessment. We are **requesting** that all 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students participate in the field test.

(2) Will take the portfolio alternate assessment for science in grades 4, 7 and 11 as in the past.

D) ELL students will be assessed with the paper/pencil Kansas English Proficiency Assessment (KELPA).

E) There will not be a regular assessment for History/Government in 2014. Schools will be invited to participate voluntarily in piloting test items based on the recently adopted new standards. Those items will be piloted at grade 6, 8, and high school.

F) All **accommodations** used in previous years may still be used if documented in IEP, 504 or student assistance plans. The only ones that will be recorded with KSDE will be the ones attached to a test order type or entered in the student's personal needs profile in KITE.

2014-2015 and 2015-2016

Based on the December 10, 2013 decision of the State Board of Education to have CETE develop the state assessment for Kansas in 2014-15 and beyond, the following will be the plan:

2014-15

CETE will use the 2014 Transitional Math and ELA Assessments as a base and add new and improved item types to be administered in the spring of 2015. This will include more technology enhanced items as well as adaptive features. Students qualifying for the **alternate** assessment will be assessed with DLM.

The science assessment will be changed to include only items from the current assessment that focus on core topics from 2013 Next Generation Science Standards and will also include new pilot items and item types based on those standards. There will be one form at each grade 4, 7, and 11. At HS all 11th grade students will be assessed. There is discussion about extending DLM to science to assess students qualifying for the **alternate** assessment.

The history/government assessment will be a field test of the new assessment based on 2013 standards.

ELL students will participate in the field test of the ELPA21 computer assessment.

2015-16

CETE will continue to build on the Math and ELA Assessments which will become the new Math and ELA College & Career Ready Assessment. These assessments now will include performance items that will need to be human scored.

The new science assessment will be field tested and grade levels will be changed to 5th, 8th, and 11th.

The new history/government assessment will be administered.

ELL students will be assessed with the ELPA21 assessment.

The State Board of Education also approved the use of multiple assessments that could be used at the high school level, such as ACT, SAT, CPASS, etc. The KSDE will be submitting an amendment to our waiver this winter for approval of this option.

Additional Information

CETE has developed a new Kansas Assessment Program webpage in place of the old CETE site for assessment information. This site includes information about the various state assessments Kansas students take as well as information about KITE. http://www.ksassessments.org/

Personal Needs Profile (PNP) On the Kansas Assessments Program page, a video tutorial has been posted on how to enter accommodations in a student's Personal Needs Profile. The following link connects to the page with the video as well as the entire KITE Educator Portal Manual. http://www.ksassessments.org/documentation

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) New information has been posted about the Dynamic Learning Maps Field Test #1. Please follow this link to get the most current information. http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/moreinfo/external_pilot.html

Information and updates are sent via the Test Coordinator's listserv throughout the year. If you are not receiving that information, please contact Mark Stephenson mstephenson@ksde.org with your request to be added to the listserv.