General Information

- Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities
- Student participation is determined by the student’s IEP team using the Participation Guidelines and Alternate Assessment Flow Chart
- Students who take an alternate assessment will take it in all content areas: English language arts (ELA), math and science
- Students are instructed and assessed on Essential Elements
- ELA and Math assessed in Grades 3-8 and 10
- DLM Science assessed in Grades 5, 8 and 11
- A computer based assessment that is dynamic which will adapt to students’ needs and strengths and gives teachers a powerful tool to help guide student learning
- Provide consistency in expectations across grades and achievement levels
- Emphasize skill similarities in content learning and skills achievement even though ways of performing may be highly diversified
- New and returning teachers complete required training in the fall.

Assessment Format

- Computer Based
- Dynamic Assessment
- Inclusion of instructionally-relevant tasks
- Advanced feedback and reporting system (including growth modeling)
- Universal Design
- Professional Development
- Students will test on one testlet (3-5 items) per Essential Element
- The First Contact Survey individualizes the testlet given to each student to meet their needs
- The First Contact and PNP need to be reviewed and updated at the beginning of the school year

What Are Learning Maps?

- The Map includes all skills needed by students in each content area
- Provide instructional guidance as students move up the maps
- Accommodate diverse learners by providing a range of examples for performing expectations
- Ground the alternate assessments in clear expectations for learning and achievement
- The assessment has five linkage levels in ELA/math and three in science so each student is tested at their level

Two Testing Windows

- Instructionally Embedded Assessment (Fall and Spring) – teachers choose Essential Elements and linkage level for student
- Blueprint requirement must be met in both windows
- Science (only required in Spring window) – adaptive; teachers do not choose linkage level
- ELA, Math and Science Blueprints/Record Sheets are located at http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/kansas

Scores Reported

- Student performance levels are reported to schools and parents
- Student scores for DLM ELA and math are from both instructionally embedded windows
- Student scores for Science are from the nine testlets the student takes during the year end assessment

Website and Contact Information

Information about DLM can be found at http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/kansas

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