



Monday DAC Email

July 22, 2019

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q: What is the next step in the Academic Standards Assessment Blueprint process?

A: Three Assessment Blueprint Review Committees (RC) are scheduled to meet July 25 in Frankfort. The meetings include:

- The Reading/Writing and Mathematics Assessment Blueprint Review Committees both will meet 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET at the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), 2 Hudson Hollow Road, Suite B.
- The Social Studies Assessment Blueprint Review Committee will meet 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET in Room 516 at KDE, 300 Sower Blvd.

Senate Bill 1 (2017) calls for KDE to implement a process for reviewing all academic standards and aligned assessments. The schedule calls for one or two content areas to be reviewed each year and every six years after that on a rotating basis.

Each of the Assessment Blueprint Review Committees are comprised of nine members, including elementary, middle and high school teachers, members from postsecondary education and a representative from the Kentucky business community. The [Assessment Review Process](#) involves many Kentucky educators.

[Assessment Calendar](#)

In this Issue:

[Alternate K-PREP Calendar Released](#)

[School Report Card Approval/Collection Tool Open](#)

[DAC Spotlight](#)

[Previous Topics](#)

Important Dates

July 22:	KAAC New DAC Informational Seminar
July 23:	K Screen Training of Trainers (TOT), Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Frankfort
July 25:	Assessment Blueprints Review Committees (Reading, Mathematics and Social Studies)
July 30:	Deadline for Public Comment on Proposed Alternate Assessment Waiver
August 6:	Cohort Review Closes in SDRR
August 7:	Kentucky Board of Education Meeting
August 8:	DAC Monthly Webcast
August 15:	Deadline for Assessment Item Review Applications

2019-2020 ALTERNATE K-PREP CALENDAR RELEASED

The 2019-2020 [Alternate K-PREP Administration Calendar](#) has been released to the [Alternate K-PREP Resources](#) page. For any questions or concerns regarding these dates, please contact [Kevin O’Hair](#).

Applications

[SDRR](#)

[Secure Web App](#)

[SRD](#)

[PearsonAccess^{next}](#)

• [ACT](#)

• [K-PREP/EOC](#)

SCHOOL REPORT CARD APPROVAL/COLLECTION TOOL OPEN

The secure School Report Card (SRC) website is now open; districts can begin reviewing, approving and populating their 2018-2019 School Report Card. At this time, there are two areas open that require attention:

1. The School Safety Data Review/Approval period is open through July 31.

District safe school coordinators and school administrators who are responsible for safe schools reporting should review the district- and school-level safety data and either approve or flag the data by **July 31**.

This review requires active validation of safe schools data through the [SRC approval](#) site. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) must report safety data to the Kentucky Center for School Safety and Office of Education Accountability in August of each year in accordance with [KRS 158.444](#).

Resource materials are available to assist with this review include:

- [“Kentucky School Report Card: School Safety Data Approval User’s Guide”](#) provides specifics on how to complete the review process in the School Report Card.
- [“School Report Card Filter Instructions”](#) (using the Infinite Campus Safe Schools Report) can be used to assist with comparing Infinite Campus safe schools data to the School Report Card (SRC) data. Each school must review and approve data within the system.
- Video resources:
 - [“KYSRC Data and Approval Tool – How to Access”](#)
 - [“KYSRC Accessing and Viewing your Data”](#)
 - [“KYSRC Approving and Flagging your Data”](#)

2. The School Collection Tool is open through Aug. 31 for school-level data entry.

Schools also can begin entering data into the SRC School Collection Tool. This tool is used to gather school-level data on community involvement, safety precautionary measures, technology and school profile data (visual and performing arts, career studies, health and physical education, and world languages) not collected in other systems. Initially, only the precautionary measures will be viewable in the approval tool. The other collections are open for data entry to give as much time as possible for this work, but access to view in the approval tool won’t open until Aug. 7.

[@KDE](#)

[ACCESS for ELLs](#)

[ACT](#)

[Alternate K-PREP](#)

[End-of-Course](#)

[Kindergarten Screener](#)

[K-PREP](#)

[DAC Emails](#)

[School Report Card](#)

[Open House](#)

Helpful Links

[ACT](#)

[Admin Code Training](#)

[Registration](#)

[KAAC](#)

[NAEP](#)

[Pearson](#)

Resource materials available to assist with entering collection items include:

- [SRC Collection Items](#)
- [“Kentucky School Report Card: Data Approval/Collection Tool User’s Guide”](#)
- [“Kentucky School Report Card Collector Item Entry” \(video\)](#)
- [“School Profile Report – Collection Tool Guidance”](#)

As a reminder, the School Profile Report must be completed with signatures by **Oct. 1** each year.

See prior communications available in the [SRC Resource Page](#). Specifics on how to set up users with access to the SRC have been shared in previous communications.

DAC Spotlight

Monroe County School District is located in the city of Tompkinsville in Monroe County. The school district is located in the south-central area of the state, sitting on the Tennessee border. MCSD services around 1,800 students K-12 and is comprised of five schools: Gamaliel Elementary, Joe Harrison Carter Elementary, Tompkinsville Elementary, Monroe County Middle, and Monroe County High. There is also an alternative learning center, Falcon Academy, and an Area Technology Center attached to the high school. The district is very fortunate to also house Preschool, Head Start, and Wee Care Daycares in each of its elementary schools as well. It is the mission of the Monroe County School District to give students the skill set and the toolset to be successful, productive citizens. The theme in the district for the current and upcoming school year is MCSD Lx3 (Literacy, Learning and Love).

Literacy: A Striving Readers Grant has given a renewed focus on literacy from birth to grade 12. An early learning team and preschool liaison works diligently to assess and intervene with students before entering kindergarten to ensure students are prepared for success. Elementary schools have been incorporating the Literacy Design Collaborative and the middle and high schools are incorporating the Adolescent Literacy Model.

Learning (Growth): The goal is to increase the knowledge and capacity of staff by incorporating a more intentional and personalized approach to professional development. Schools have completed whole staff book studies; incentives have been offered to become Google certified, and due to funding from the Striving Readers grant, teachers are provided support as they go through the National Board Certification Program.

Love (Relationships/Culture): The district has focused on building relationships with students and staff as it is vital to ensure a positive, nurturing environment for students to learn and grow. All staff work in each school to create a family type atmosphere.



[Christie Biggerstaff](#)
Monroe County Schools

Disclaimer: Any views or opinions presented in the article are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).

Previous Topics

[Top of Page](#)

TEACHERS AND CONTENT SPECIALISTS NEEDED TO SUPPORT FUTURE KENTUCKY ASSESSMENTS

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA), is seeking current classroom teachers (grades 3-12) and content specialists working in support of teachers, to review items for future Kentucky assessments in reading and writing, mathematics and social studies. Senate Bill 1 (2017) requires that the department implement a process to review Kentucky's Academic Standards (KAS) and the alignment of corresponding assessments for possible revision or replacement.

A pool of candidates is being gathered for this critical work and participants will be notified if accepted. Currently, [applications](#) are being accepted through August 15. Applicants who are selected will be required to meet in Frankfort or Lexington for multiple days. Substitute teacher expense along with travel will be reimbursed. Timeline of activities will be communicated to individuals once they are determined, with work taking place in early fall.

If you have any questions, please email them to dacinfo@education.ky.gov.

UPDATED SDRR COHORT CLOSING DATE

The Student Data Review and Rosters (SDRR) application opened on July 10 with Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate data. Districts may review their Student Listings through August 6. **Please note the date change - previous communications indicated that Cohort would close on August 9, but the schedule had a slight change.** If discrepancies are found, changes are made in Infinite Campus (IC). Resources to assist districts with this important review on Cohort include a [PowerPoint](#) and recording on the [KDE Media Portal](#).

ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT WAIVER

The [news release](#) from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) was shared with the media, superintendents and others, concerning the public comment period for the alternate assessment waiver. The information below may be of interest to District Assessment Coordinators (DACs).

[Public comment sought on proposed alternate assessment waiver \(FRANKFORT, KY\)](#) – The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is seeking public comment through July 30 on its request to the U.S.

Department of Education (USED) to extend its waiver on the number of students who can be tested using an alternate assessment on the annual statewide Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress (K-PREP) tests.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), section 1111(b)(2)(D) and its corresponding regulation 34 CFR 200.6(c) and (d), contain requirements for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to participate in statewide testing through the use of alternate assessments aligned with alternate academic achievement standards. The federal law requires that no more than 1 percent of the total number of students participating in a statewide assessment such as K-PREP may take the alternate assessment in each subject area tested.

The most recent preliminary data from the 2018-2019 school year shows that slightly more than 1 percent of Kentucky's students took alternate assessments. Preliminary data for the 2018-2019 school year is the raw number of students participating in state assessments provided by KDE assessment vendors. The preliminary data does not include state required review and validation at state, district and school level.

In accordance with 34 C.F.R. §200.6(c)(4), if a state anticipates that it will exceed the cap with respect to any subject for which assessments are administered in any school year, the state may request that the secretary of education waive the cap for the relevant subject for one year. The KDE plans to submit a waiver request to the USED in the areas of reading, mathematics, writing, science and social studies.

To receive a waiver, the KDE must gather data on the characteristics of students participating in the alternate assessment to determine whether students who do not have significant cognitive disabilities are participating. Also, the KDE must monitor alternate assessment data and request justification from all districts exceeding 1 percent participation in any subject. The department will address any disproportionality in the percentage of students taking the alternate assessment.

As a result of Kentucky's waiver approval for the 2018-2019 school year, KDE, regional special education cooperatives and school districts have worked in collaboration to develop and implement guidance, training and monitoring to ensure only the students with the most significant cognitive disabilities are participating in the alternate assessment. The substantial progress made is cited in the proposed waiver for alternate assessment participation the KDE will submit to the USED.

The proposed waiver is available on the KDE website. General information on Kentucky's Alternate Assessment is available on [KDE's Alternate K-Prep webpage](#).

Send written comments on the proposed waiver to Sylvia Starkey, Director, Division of IDEA Monitoring and Results, Office of Special Education and Early Learning, Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Blvd., Fifth Floor, Sower Building, Frankfort, KY 40601. Comments also may be submitted by email to Sylvia.Starkey@education.ky.gov, by telephone at (502) 564-4970, or by fax at (502) 564-4124.

[Top of Page](#)

Contact Information

Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability
Division of Assessment and Accountability Support
(502) 564-4394

[KDE DAC Information](#)