



Monday DAC Email

September 16, 2019

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q: When is Quality Control (QC) Day Two?

A: On Thursday, September 19, QC Day Two will be held from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. ET. On Thursday, the Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) anticipates sharing federal classifications, star rating, overall accountability score and indicator labels of very high to very low. We will begin the day at 9 a.m. ET with a brief [live webinar](#) on the [KDE Media Portal](#). Select the Watch Live Webcast to view. OSAA staff will discuss the steps associated with QC Day Two and detail on the data. For those who cannot view the webinar live, the recording will be available on the [KDE Media Portal](#) shortly after the end of the live broadcast.

Resources from Pre-QC Day

Thank you for being part of the online QC Day One last week.

Resources used on the September 10 Pre-QC Day presentation including [QC Day One PowerPoint](#) and [QC Day One Video](#) may be helpful when communicating the accountability system. The information shared on QC Day One will NOT be repeated on QC Day Two.

[Assessment Calendar](#)

In this Issue:

[Academic Standards Assessment Blueprint Next Steps](#)

[Bias Review Participants Sought](#)

[WIDA Updates](#)

[DAC Spotlight](#)

[Previous Topics](#)

Important Dates

September 16-17:	Continuous Improvement Summit in Lexington
September 19:	Quality Control (QC) Day Two for 2018-2019 Reporting, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET; Live Webinar at 9 a.m.
September 23-24:	Assessment Blueprint Advisory Panel Meetings (Mathematics, Reading/Writing, Social Studies) in Frankfort
September 26:	Administration Code/Inclusion of Special Populations Training for Allegations in Frankfort
September 30, October 24-25:	Assessment Blueprint Review Committee Meetings (Mathematics Reading/Writing, Social Studies) in Frankfort
October 1-30:	ACCESS for ELLs® Test Ordering Window
October 10:	ACT Data and Reports are Downloaded or Printed from PAN
October 22-23:	Bias Review Committee Meeting at the Louisville Marriott East (Hurstbourne)

WORLD-CLASS INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT (WIDA) UPDATES

- **WIDA Screener for Kindergarten Field Testing**--WIDA is seeking schools that can administer the WIDA Screener for Kindergarten field test to at least 20 students between January 6 and February 28. This new screener will eventually replace the Kindergarten W-APT. [View the informational flyer](#) for more information and to sign up.

Please Note: WIDA Screener for Kindergarten is still a test in development, so sites will not receive scores for the students they test.

- **2019 WIDA Annual Conference Registration**--Registration for the 2019 WIDA Annual Conference on October 15-18 in Providence, Rhode Island, is filling fast and WIDA expects the event to sell out this year. Avoid the waiting list and take advantage of the last opportunity to save on [registration](#) fees. Rates increase October 1. For more information visit the [conference website](#).
- **Revised WIDA Q&A Webinar Schedule**--Due to unforeseen circumstances associated with the WebEx platform, the WIDA Q&A Webinar Schedule has been updated with new login links for district and school personnel with an ACCESS account. If districts have downloaded or shared this schedule previously, [download a new copy](#).
- **Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) Transition to Central Office Services (COS) Service Device (SC) Reminder**--Beginning September 20, all districts with a Testing Site Manger (TSM) still configured in their system and attempting to use WIDA Screener Online will be prompted to transition to Central Office Services (COS) Service Device (SD) before being allowed to test. All districts must delete the TSM configuration and move to COS SD. Please contact [DRC](#) Customer Service for assistance at (855) 787-9615.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS ASSESSMENT BLUEPRINT NEXT STEPS

Senate Bill 1 (2017) calls for the Kentucky Department of Education (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.

Three **Advisory Panels** (AP) will meet for the second time September 23 or 24 in Frankfort. Each of the APs is comprised of 22 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. These meetings include:

- The Reading/Writing and Social Studies Assessment Blueprint APs will both meet September 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET, at the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), 2 Hudson Hollow Road, Frankfort.

Applications

[SDRR](#)

[Secure Web App](#)

[SRD](#)

[PearsonAccess^{next}](#)

[ACT](#)

- [K-PREP/EOC](#)

[@KDE](#)

[ACCESS for ELLs](#)

[ACT](#)

[Alternate K-PREP](#)

[End-of-Course](#)

[K-PREP](#)

[Kindergarten Screener](#)

[DAC Emails](#)

[School Report Card](#)

[Open House](#)

Helpful Links

[ACT](#)

[Admin Code Training](#)

[Registration](#)

[KAAC](#)

[NAEP](#)

[Pearson](#)

- The Mathematics Assessment Blueprint AP will meet September 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET, at KDE, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort.

Three **Review Committees (RC)** will meet for the second time September 30, October 24 or October 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ET, at KDE, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort. Each of the RCs is comprised of nine members, including elementary, middle and high school teachers, members from postsecondary education and a representative from the Kentucky business community. These meetings include:

- The Mathematics Assessment Blueprint RC will meet September 30
- The Social Studies Assessment Blueprint RC will meet October 24
- The Reading/Writing Assessment Blueprint RC will meet October 25

BIAS REVIEW PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT

Bias review committees participate in thoughtful and meaningful discussions about bias or sensitivity appropriateness for Kentucky students on Kentucky assessments. Individuals – not only educators -- are needed who bring differing perspectives. If someone in your district or community would make a good candidate, and may be willing to participate in this two-day meeting, please provide their names to Jason.Howard@education.ky.gov.

The bias review committee meeting will convene October 22-23 at the Louisville Marriott East (Hurstbourne). Meals and travel will be covered by Pearson.

DAC Spotlight

Fulton Independent Schools (FISD) is located in far Western Kentucky on the Tennessee state line. FISD is classified as a “one-school district” for grades P-12. FISD services approximately 400 students across two campuses – Carr Elementary (P-5) and Fulton Middle/High School (6-12). High school students are also able to attend the Four Rivers Career Academy in nearby Hickman, Kentucky, which serves the four river counties. FISD’s mission statement is “Dream It! Believe It! Achieve It!”

The school district has focused extensively on improving its PLC networks and faculty meetings to focus on intentional, data driven teaching. Data rooms are located in each school and are used for PLC meetings. Faculty meetings are led by principals and instructional leaders with a focus on instructional strategies, deconstructing new standards and assessment. New universal assessments, curriculum, and technology area are being introduced districtwide to increase student achievement.

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).



[Sarah Townsend](#)
Fulton Independent Schools

QUALITY CONTROL DAY CONFIRMED

For 2018-2019 reporting, the Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) will hold a Pre-Quality Control information webcast and two Quality Control Days.

September 10: Pre-QC Day

At 2:30 p.m. ET September 10, the Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) will host a [live webinar](#) on the [KDE Media Portal](#). Select the Watch Live Webcast to view. OSAA staff will discuss the steps associated with QC Day One and detail on the data. For those who cannot view the webinar live, the recording will be available on the [KDE Media Portal](#) shortly after the end of the live broadcast.

September 11: Quality Control (QC) Day One

QC Day One is confirmed for 9 a.m.-5 p.m. ET September 11. During QC Day One, DACs will receive student listings, graduation cohort data, transition readiness data, assessed performance levels (Novice, Apprentice, Proficient, Distinguished [NAPD]), assessed NAPD by grade, accountable NAPD, accountable NAPD by grade and accountability summary.

The summary file will include indicator scores (proficiency, separate, etc.), but it will **not** include very low to very high labels, overall scores, five-star ratings or federal classifications. QC Day One is an opportunity to review student demographic data and aggregated school data for systemic issues.

To Be Determined: Quality Control (QC) Day Two

The QC Day Two date is pending. On QC Day Two, districts and schools should receive preliminary overall accountability scores and overall star ratings, indicator ratings of very high to very low and federal classifications.

The purpose of the QC Day Two is to identify systemic issues in accountability data prior to any public release. Data will be reviewed for systemic issues, and if issues are found, it could change an individual school's classification. QC Day Two will be the last viewing of data prior to the embargoed release to districts.

COMMISSIONER ACCEPTS STANDARDS RECOMMENDATIONS FROM 5-STAR PANEL

The media release below was sent Friday, September 6 from the Commissioner's Office at the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), and may be of interest to District Assessment Coordinators (DACs).

(Frankfort, KY) – A panel convened by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has completed the work that will help define how schools and districts will be classified when the new 5-star accountability system goes live. The panel's recommendations that set the standards for how schools should be classified for the 2018-2019

school year and beyond have been approved by Kentucky Education Commissioner Wayne Lewis.

The panel – consisting of 23 district and school administrators, teachers, members of the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE), parent representatives, and members of the business civil rights communities – considered the criteria for classifications within the system during 2 1/2 days of discussion in Frankfort. In meetings that concluded Sept. 5, the panel established performance descriptions for each of the indicators that helped them determine how schools will be classified. It also set cut scores for the star ratings that will be assigned to schools and for the six individual indicators that combine to determine the overall rating.

“I’m thankful for the sacrifice of time and commitment of the panel members, and I believe the recommendations were thoughtful and sensible,” said Lewis. “This may be the first time KDE has engaged such a broad group of stakeholders for a process like this. I was happy to approve the recommendations without change.”

The ratings of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) stars will be available on the [Kentucky School Report Card](#) when the rating system debuts with the release of accountability data.

There will be no requirement for a specific percentage of schools to be at any star rating. The percentage of schools projected to be rated at the 1-star and 5-star levels based on data from the 2018-2019 school year is likely to be relatively low.

Kentucky’s accountability system, does not rely solely on state test scores, instead using six accountability indicators:

- Reading and math proficiency
- Proficiency in social studies, science and writing
- Student growth
- Transition readiness
- Graduation
- Quality of school climate and safety (which will be implemented with data from the 2019-2020 school year)

The system has students at its center – ensuring that they are well-rounded, transition-ready and prepared with the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful after high school graduation.

“All of the components that yield data for how students are performing, what kind of achievement students are having, all of that comes together to help establish the star rating,” said Rhonda Sims, the associate commissioner in KDE’s Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability. “All the pieces of the system are important. The bigger picture of a school is what gets reflected in those measures.”

The 5-star rating system is designed to focus attention on the need to close achievement gaps, or the difference in levels of academic

achievement between specific groups of students. A school or district that would be classified as 5- or 4-star will be reduced by one star if it has one or more statistically significant achievement gaps between the performances of groups of students.

Center for Assessment representative Brian Gong, who helped facilitate the meetings, said the level of discourse strengthened that process, adding that participants engaged in thoughtful decision making, individually, in small groups and in whole group discussions. Each participant had a voice of equal weight, he said.

The star ratings will have no effect on funding for schools or districts. No funding will be withheld from schools or districts that do not rate highly; rather, schools performing in the bottom 5 percent will receive extra funding and support from KDE to help implement research-based strategies that will increase achievement for its students.

Gary Houchens, a KBE member who served on the panel, said the creation and implementation of the system should be viewed as a starting point for discussions about improving schools.

“I think it’s important that we reshape the conversation statewide, and particularly in our local communities, about what these ratings mean,” he said. “This is the beginning of a conversation, not the end. When we talk about this with our constituents, we should encourage teachers to dig into this data, to use this as a starting point to see what is going on in our schools.”

Members of the panel included:

- Hal Heiner, chair, Kentucky Board of Education
- Gary Houchens, member, Kentucky Board of Education
- Danny Adkins, superintendent, Floyd County schools
- Paul Mullins, superintendent, Logan County schools
- Marty Pollio, superintendent / Dena Dossett, chief executive director, accountability systems, research and improvement division, Jefferson County schools
- Diane Hatchett, superintendent, Berea Independent schools
- Scott Hawkins, superintendent, Woodford County schools
- Aaron Collins, superintendent, Fulton County schools
- Teresa Nicholas, district assessment coordinator, Pulaski County schools
- Amanda Reed, district assessment coordinator, LaRue County schools
- Stephen Flatt, director of special education, Marshall County schools
- Jerri Rowland, principal, Monroe County Area Technology Center
- Susan Brashear, principal, Whitley Central Intermediate School
- Amy Lingo, dean, College of Education, University of Louisville
- Amy Razor, executive director, Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services

- Rhonda Caldwell, executive director, Kentucky Association of School Administrators
- Melissa Aguilar, executive director, Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board
- Rhonda Harmon, executive director, KASC
- Annissa Franklin, chief administrative officer, Urban League of Lexington
- Sarah Davasher-Wisdom, chief operating officer, Greater Louisville Inc.
- Penny Christian, parent, member of Kentucky PTA
- Margo Bruce, teacher, Webster County High School
- Amanda Underwood, teacher, Mason County Middle School

ALTERNATE K-PREP GRADE 10 READING ASSESSMENT AND WORK SAMPLES

To align with the general assessment at high school and maintain consistency with the Kentucky state assessment and accountability plan the federal guidance for assessments and reporting will require students on the Kentucky Alternate Assessment to complete the reading assessment at grade 10. The same [Grade 10 Reading Standards](#) assessed in 2018-2019 will again be assessed in the 2019-2020 school year. The test itself will look different, however the standards have not changed.

Students at grade 10 will not be required to submit reading work samples in the AAAF for 2019-2020. Mathematics at grade 10 will require work samples.

For any questions please feel free to contact [Kevin O’Hair](#) by email, or by phone at (502) 564-4394.

WORLD-CLASS INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT (WIDA) WEBSITE WALKTHROUGH

Has it been a while since you’ve visited WIDA? Check out the new [website walkthrough video](#) to learn where to go for key resources.



2019-2020 ACCESS FOR ELLS MANUALS

The 2019-2020 ACCESS for ELLs [Test Administrator Manual](#) and [District and School Test Coordinator Manual](#) are now available in the Download Library. The 2019-2020 [Accessibility and Accommodations Supplement](#) can be found in the Resource Library on the WIDA website.

ACT DATA AND REPORTS BEING REMOVED FROM PEARSONACCESS^{next} (PAN)

The ACT high school and district level profile reports, as well as district level data files, and electronic copies of the Non College Reportable Score Notification letters from the 2019 spring state administration will be removed from [PearsonAccess^{next} for ACT](#) in mid-October.

It is strongly recommended that reports are downloaded or printed prior to October 11.

Contact Information

Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability
Division of Assessment and Accountability Support
(502) 564-4394
[KDE DAC Information](#)