

## Smarter Balanced Assessment Team

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## From the Test Director:

Happy June 16<sup>th</sup>, the day this year's Smarter Balanced testing comes to a close. We want to congratulate and thank you all for another successful year of test administration. As a reminder, you are now free to send home the Individual Student Reports (ISRs), and we highly recommend that you include the [ISR Guide](#) that we recently revised. Also, please note that you are required to provide this information to parents, but how and when is up to your local administration.

You now may also produce school or district reports for your boards or community members, keeping in mind our recommendation that you note that these results are preliminary (although not likely to change much) until the Agency has the opportunity to reconcile the student demographic data you entered in TIDE with the Spring Census. We hope to be able to release those official results in late August, prior to the opening of the 2017-2018 school year.

**ASSESSMENT PROGRAM UPDATES:** Also, with this newsletter, we bid farewell to the NECAP Science Assessment and the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) alternate assessments. Following are brief updates on what to expect next year in the absence of those two testing programs.

- **Science Assessment:** Vermont has joined with its former NECAP partner, Rhode Island, to develop a new science assessment that will be aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The Agency is in the final stages of awarding a contract for the new science test and hopes to begin work on the project in mid to late July. Although we are not prepared to announce exact dates right now, you can anticipate a field-test in the late spring of 2018, and that the first operational administration will take place the following school year. Please note that based on a review of the Next Generation Science Standards the two states have determined that the most appropriate time to administer the elementary assessment will be in grade five. The middle school testing will be in grade 8 and the high school testing will be in grade 11. You can also plan on a test that will be shorter than NECAP, administered on computer, and will include some pretty innovative technology-enhanced test items and tasks.

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- Alternate Assessment: You may have heard that Vermont is leaving the DLM Alternate Assessment Consortium after this year's results are released. The University of Kansas, the fiscal agent for DLM, instituted a new cost structure for the assessment that essentially favoring the larger state members and priced Vermont out of the project. The Agency is currently considering new options for our alternate assessments and will be seeking a new test vendor as soon as possible. At this point in time, there is not much information on the new alternate assessment, except that the Agency is looking to have ELA, Math and Science as part of a single assessment system, and to the extent possible, have the assessments delivered by computer. You can also expect that some form of field-testing will occur during the 2017-2018 school year.

Here's wishing you high test scores for all your students and a relaxing summer.

**Michael Hock, State Assessment Director**

## Score Reporting, Embargo, Individual Student Report (ISR) Guide

### Score Reporting & Embargo

As stated in the director's message, today concludes the spring Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment window. Many schools will begin to either send the ISRs home with the students or mail them. An updated [ISR guide](#) (Parent Guide) has been posted on the VT-SBAC portal and should accompany the score report.

### Printing Student Reports

Directions for printing the student reports are in Appendix A of the [Online Reporting System User Guide](#). Schools should be printing the *Simple Version* of ISRs. The Detailed Version is "in-progress" and is not ready for printing. This report will be useful when we begin measuring growth next year, and trend data will appear in the blank space.

Score Reports | Reports & Files

Inbox (0) | Search Students | Add Roster | View/Edit Rosters | This page: Help | Print

Now viewing: Scores for students who were mine at the end of the selected administration

### Retrieve Student Results & My Inbox

Create New Data File to Download

**Step 1: Choose What**

Report Type: PDFs of Student Reports

Test: Smarter Summative

Administration: 2016-2017

Tested Grade: All Grades

Download Format: PDF

PDF Type: Simple ISR

Filter By: ALL

**Step 2: Choose Who**

District: Demo District 1 (999999999)

School: All

Download



**Inbox**

From: A Math Educator  
 RE: Student Growth Across School Years

Michael,

I have an SBAC question. As I look at scaled scores, I'm a little confused about how to determine what constitutes a year's worth of growth (or more or less). Because the cutoffs for grade 5 and grade 6 are different for each achievement level, how do I determine growth, or not?

**Response:**

Although this changes a bit by grade level and content area, on average an increase of approximately 30 scale score points indicates that a student's achievement, relative to the proficient cut score, has not changed. However, that number tends to be higher in grades 4 and 5 and decreases at the higher grade levels. So, a student who scores right at proficient in one grade would need to increase about 30 points to score at proficient in the next. Please keep in mind that 30 points is a psychometric answer to your question that doesn't specifically reflect actual content mastery, but it's safe to say that on this particular test, 30 points "constitutes a year's worth of growth." Below is a slide from one of our regional workshops that shows the exact number of points by grade and content area that you can if you want to be that exact. Note: the slide uses standard deviation units to indicate growth but in this case, because Smarter Balanced uses a 1000-point scale, with an average standard deviation of 100 points, each growth unit is equivalent to one scale score point; .33 is the same as 33 points. If you would like to review the entire presentation, you can find it here: <http://vt.portal.airast.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/VT-Smarter-Balanced-Fall-Training-Presentation.pdf>.

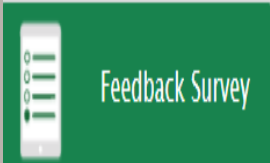
**Effect Size Growth: A "Real Difference" Test for Any N-Size**



2015	2015	2015		Effect	
ELA	ELA	ELA		Size	Average
Grade	Mean	SD		Growth	Growth
3	2430.95	85.39			0.3
4	2470.12	86.94	Gr3-Gr4	0.45	
5	2510.23	89.98	Gr4-Gr5	0.45	
6	2532.14	90.03	Gr5-Gr6	0.24	
7	2557.63	93.92	Gr6-Gr7	0.28	
8	2569.15	96.57	Gr7-Gr8	0.12	
11	2597.06	112.08	Gr8-Gr11	0.27	

2015	2015	2015		Effect	
Math	Math	Math		Size	Average
Grade	Mean	SD		Growth	Growth
3	2435.01	77.89			0.3
4	2471.88	76.12	Gr3-Gr4	0.48	
5	2502.65	84.45	Gr4-Gr5	0.38	
6	2515.38	95.38	Gr5-Gr6	0.14	
7	2541.49	101.72	Gr6-Gr7	0.26	
8	2552.55	111.22	Gr7-Gr8	0.10	
11	2581.27	128.52	Gr8-Gr11	0.24	

-- Effect Size Growth Units are expressed in scale score points -- The growth unit is the number of scale score points that would indicate "real difference" between two cohorts of students -- 30 scale score points might be considered the equivalent of one year growth for a student



### Feedback Survey

As the 2017 administration of the Smarter Balanced Assessment comes to a close, please take a few minutes to complete a brief survey of this your testing experience. Every year, the TIDE team at the American Institutes of Research (AIR) reviews your feedback and uses it to improve the Test Delivery and Online Reporting Systems. In the past, your feedback has also helped shape the trainings conducted every fall. Click on the icon to the left or visit the [VT-SBAC Portal](#) to access this year’s survey.



### Question of the Week

#### What are the testing windows for next year?

Because of the new NGSS Science and Alternate Assessments, it is difficult to say when the testing windows will occur. We can say that field-testing for new assessments will likely be done in the spring. This will hold true even if we are fortunate enough to procure another instructionally embedded assessment for our students with significant cognitive disabilities.

### SBAC Testing Tally – Final Week



VT 2017 SBAC Assessment Tally: 6/15/2017 (Completed)								
Grade	# of students	ELA CAT	MA CAT	ELA PT	MA PT	Total #	% Completed	
11	6847	5722	5714	5709	5704	22849	0.834270483	
8	6060	5852	5828	5856	5857	23393	0.965057756	
7	6102	5957	5922	5955	5911	23745	0.972836775	
6	6225	6065	6086	6082	6092	24325	0.976907631	
5	6027	5885	5902	5897	5906	23590	0.978513357	
4	6230	6106	6122	6096	6127	24451	0.981179775	
3	6223	6075	6098	6074	6112	24359	0.978587498	
	<b>43714</b>						<b>95%</b>	

**NOTE:** If your high school numbers appear low, please check to make sure only 11<sup>th</sup> grade students are loaded in TIDE.