

## Smarter Balanced Assessment Team

For more information or to be added to the newsletter distribution list, please contact:

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## From the Test Director: A Little Light Housekeeping

We've got a few chores we need to do over the next several weeks that are the first of many we need to complete to be ready for testing in mid-March. First and foremost, we need to make sure we have a District Test Administrator (DA) for every Supervisory Union/Supervisory District. Then the DAs will initiate the process of designating and assigning passwords to individuals who will serve in other test administration roles: District Coordinators (DCs), School Coordinators (SCs), Teachers who will administer the tests (TEs), and other individuals who will administer the test (TAs). Here's how the process will work:

- ✓ Superintendents will receive an e-mail from us with a list of the current DAs attached. They will be asked to (a) confirm that the current DA will continue in that role, or (b) name a new DA.
- ✓ Once we hear from your superintendent we will clean out all the inactive DAs and enter their replacements.
- ✓ In the meantime, on or near the 27<sup>th</sup>, all of last year's users will receive an e-mail from our testing contractor, American Institutes for Research (AIR), that will provide directions for resetting passwords. Everyone **MUST** change passwords each year because it is one of our methods for maintaining test security. This e-mail will also include a temporary password that can be used to access the secure side of the assessment portal and set a new permanent password for this year.
- ✓ When TIDE opens on October 6<sup>th</sup>, DA's should remove any inactive users and add their replacements. After the school coordinators are identified and entered into TIDE, they can add new TEs and TAs and clean out any individuals who will no longer be involved in test administration.

More detailed instructions for completing this process can be found on the VT Smarter Balanced Portal in the District Administrator's file of Test Administration tools, and you should also feel free to contact the helpdesk for assistance.

**Michael Hock, State Assessment Director**

## Score Reports

Score reports are now available for schools in the Online Reporting System (ORS). In addition to the ORS, [statewide scores](#) have been released on the [Agency of Education website](#). Be sure you are using internet Explorer on Windows and Safari on Mac systems.

## Questions?

Please contact:  
**Help Desk (AIR)** for Test Administration & Test Delivery Technologies  
[vthelpdesk@air.org](mailto:vthelpdesk@air.org)  
844-218-1184

Michael Hock (AOE) for Policies and Procedures  
[Michael.hock@vermont.gov](mailto:Michael.hock@vermont.gov)  
802-479-1288

Linda Moreno  
Accessibility and Accommodations for Special Populations  
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802-479-1309

### EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

During each fiscal year, the Agency collects data from Vermont's supervisory unions and school districts. In addition, the agency provides training to help school professionals provide this data.

#### Interactive Reports

Please note that these reports render best on computers with Internet Explorer on Windows, or Safari on Mac. If you use Firefox or Chrome, the report will not render well.

Science Assessment Reports	English Language Arts and Math Assessment Reports	National Assessment Report
The interactive report for science assessment allows you to select school, year, grade and other variables.	The interactive report allows you to select year, subject and other variables.	The interactive report for math assessment allows you to select year, subject and other variables.

## 2016-17 Smarter Balanced Training

### Webinars

AIR will hold its Vermont TIDE and Technology trainings back-to-back on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. To register, please click on the date for which you would like to attend. Each SU can bring 2 district level representatives and 2 representatives from each school. Due to space limitations, we must delete duplicate or “exceeding the limit” requests.

The schedule is as follows:

[Technology Requirements for Online Testing: 2:15-3:00 p.m.](#)

[New TIDE Training: 3:30-4:30 p.m.](#)

We strongly encourage those who will be unable to attend the Regional Training to participate in the webinar. Webinars will also be recorded; however, you will not have the benefit of the Q&A afterward.

### Vermont Smarter Balanced/AIR Regional Trainings

Registration is now open for the [Vermont Regional Trainings](#). Unlike previous years, we will hold three of the events in the afternoon. Please make sure to note the time of the session when you enter the date in your calendar.

[Tuesday, October 11: Burlington \(1:00-4:00pm\)](#)

Location: Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center  
870 Williston Road  
Burlington, VT 05403

[Wednesday, October 12: Montpelier \(1:00-4:00pm\)](#)

Location: Capitol Plaza  
100 State St.  
Montpelier, VT 05602

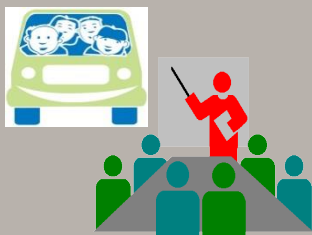
[Thursday, October 13: Mt. Snow \(1:00-4:00pm\)](#)

Location: Mt. Snow Grand Summit Resort  
89 Grand Summit Way  
West Dover, VT 05356

[Friday, October 14: Killington \(8:30-11:30am\)](#)

Location: Killington Grand Resort Hotel  
228 E Mountain Rd.  
Killington, VT 05751

### TIDE Makeover



**From our Inbox:****To: The Test Director****From: A District Data Manager**

Hi,

Is there a reason you do not report scores for the group "not FRL"?

It would be helpful in normalizing student populations to better compare local results to state results.

....Could I get them?

Thanks.

**Answer:** We do report data for both Free Reduced Lunch (FRL) and Not Free Reduced Lunch (NFRL) in the Online Reporting System and in the [spreadsheets](#) that are available on the AOE website. However, the interactive report viewer on the AOE website does not include FRL/NFRL.

**Educator Opportunities: ELA Stimulus Review**

Smarter Balanced is currently recruiting teachers to work on English Language Arts (ELA) stimuli for future assessment items. To start, Vermont is being asked to send four Educators: (1) grade 3-5, (1) grade 6-8, (1) High School, and (1) Special Populations (ESOL or Special Education) representatives. The fall session will be held November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> with a travel day on November 6<sup>th</sup>. You will find the application form on the [VT-SBAC](#) portal under [Educator Opportunities](#). There is no stipend for educators during the contracted school year; however, credit for work done at these workshops can be applied to your teaching license renewal, and substitute reimbursement is provided to the school. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Linda Moreno at 802-479-1309 or [linda.moreno@vermont.gov](mailto:linda.moreno@vermont.gov). *Note: November 8<sup>th</sup> is Election Day.*

**Digital Library: Making Connections**

Digital Library State Network of Educators (SNEs) has completed the first round of tagging which connects the Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) to lessons in the Digital Library. Not only does it connect you to lesson by claim, it also connects you by performance level.

- [Overview Cover Page](#)
- [Grade 7 Literary Text](#)
- [Grade 7 Ratio and Proportions](#)

These resources will be available with the first round of enhancements in October. Additional Connections will be added this fall as we continue collaborating with educators.



Educator Opportunities



Digital Library



Educator Opportunities