

Smarter Balanced Assessment Team

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Message from the Director: Gratitude

I want to thank all the Test Administrators, School Test Coordinators and District Test Coordinators for your hard work during the 2018 assessment window. We've had another successful year of testing with very few issues. I especially want to thank our Physical Education teachers who piloted our new Vermont PE Assessment (VTPEA), and our Special Educators who pulled together and submitted alternate assessments for students with significant cognitive disabilities. Both of these assessments were brand new, and the timeline for training and implementation was swift. A commendation also needs to go to our science educators who field-tested our new Vermont Science Assessment (VTSA). With their hard work, we were able to administer our new Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Assessment with minimal issues. Finally, I want to do a special call-out for all our school Technology Coordinators. These folks often teach classes while they pull together our assessments by importing data and troubleshooting technology problems. These folks are our boots on the ground and provide a valuable service from behind the scenes. The Assessment Team acknowledges and appreciates the hardworking and good-natured professionals making everything work in Vermont schools.

Have a wonderful summer!

Michael Hock
State Assessment Director



Save the Date(s)

Below are tentative training dates for a few of our state exams. This is not an exhaustive list. More information on the alternate ELA/MA/Science assessments coming this fall 2018.

Smarter Balanced & VTSA Regional Trainings

Tuesday, October 23 through Friday, October 26, 2018 (order to be determined)

VTPEA Training Sessions

VT SHAPE Conference:

Thursday October 18 and Friday, October 19, 2018 in Killington

*Additional trainings for new test administrators will happen at a date to be determined, and will follow a similar format as the winter/spring 2018 trainings.

Smarter Balanced Go Live Dates: 2018-19

- Secure Browsers will be available on 8/10/18
- TIDE goes live on 9/18/18
- Interims, Test Delivery System, AVA and ORS go live on 9/26/18
- Air Ways Reporting System will be available on 10/2/18

**Special Populations: What's New?
Smarter Balanced Enhancements**

Every year, our assessments are enhanced. Some enhancements are larger than others, and many aren't finalized until late in the summer. Below are a few enhancements to look forward to in 2018-19.

- New Language Glossary – Burmese
- All UEB Braille will be available online

Linda's personal favorite:

- **Picture Glossaries**
 - 2018-19 Available on Math Interims
 - 2019-20 Available on Summative

Please look for more enhancements and information in September.

Alt ELA/MA/Science: June 15th Deadline

Please note that the final day to submit your alternate ELA, MA and science portfolios will be this Friday, June 15th. The secure link to submit your information can be found on the AOE's [Alternate Assessment webpage](#) or in the [VTCAP Portal](#).

VTPEA: June 20th Deadline

If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to provide your feedback on the [2018 Pilot VT PE Assessment debrief](#). Your feedback will help shape not only the assessment calendar, but also the grade in which the VTPEA will be administered. Any feedback, however, is greatly appreciated.

DA's: Please submit your [DA Certification of Proper Test Administration](#) to the AOE upon district test completion.

Have a wonderful summer!

