

Missouri NEA State Board Report

*Notes from August 10-11, 2015 meeting of the State Board of Education
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education*

Statewide Missouri Assessment Program scores beat expectations

Missouri students outperformed expectations on new MAP assessments this spring. However, the achievement gap between students in the super subgroup and all students remained constant. The super subgroup includes the following students: free and reduced lunch, minorities, and IEP students. DESE plans to break down the subgroup data. State board members want to know how students in the subgroup who transferred from unaccredited districts scored.

In grades 3-8, the percent of students who scored proficient or advanced was higher than expected based on field tests taken by students in all states in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium in 2014.

In the table below, %P is the percent of students who scored at proficient or advanced level. ↑ is the percent over the expected number of students proficient.

2015	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
	%P	↑	%P	↑	%P	↑	%P	↑	%P	↑	%P	↑
ELA	57.2	19.2	58.5	17.5	59.1	15	55	14	57.3	19.3	57.6	16.6
Math	52	13	49.6	12.6	39.9	6.9	38.1	5.1	35.3	2.3	40.8*	8.8*

* Twenty percent of eighth graders took the Algebra I end-of-course exam and did not take the MAP grade 8 test. 40.8% is the percent of eight graders who scored proficient or advanced on the math test they took.

DESE staff explained that since learning math is linear, scores for students in higher grades are expected to be lower as teachers had to fit in material that new standards now covered in a lower grade in addition to current grade-level standards. They expect this phenomenon to go away in a few years.

Four high school end-of-course tests are required. The percent of students who scored at the proficient or advanced level follows:

English II	73.6%
Algebra I	62.1%
Biology	74.3% (up 7% from 2014)
American Government	63.4% (up 9% from 2013)

End-of-course tests that are now optional had many fewer test takers this year.

Timeline for finalizing new Missouri Learning Standards announced

House Bill 1490 established committees of educators and parents to recommend revisions to the K-12 Missouri Learning Standards in four areas: English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. These committees will submit their recommended standards to the state board of education by October 1, 2015. The final approved standards will be available on May 15, 2016. The following will occur between these two dates:

- Third of three public hearings held by the state board of education on Oct. 26
- Review by the legislative Joint Committee on Education for their comments
- Review by academic researchers in each subject for their comments
- Public comment period, January 15 to March 16
- Format and finalize standards before they are released to schools and the public

When the new standards are finalized, DESE will convene groups of educators to align state assessments to the new standards. It takes two years to develop new tests, so the first assessments of the new standards will be in the 2017-2018 school year.

The MAP assessments taken in the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years will be based on the current Missouri Learning Standards. For math and English, those are the standards adopted in 2010 that the MAP was based on in the 2014-2015 school year.

Normandy superintendent expects better start to this school year

Dr. Pearson reported all staff is hired, the 85 teachers new to the district had three days of orientation, beginning teachers have a mentor, and teachers are learning to implement Positive Behavior Support. Citizenship standards for students and Balanced Literacy curriculum are adopted. The district purchased intermediate monthly tests for math and English language arts, and data teams will meet weekly. AP and dual-credit courses are again available to high school students. Instructional coaches will work with all first and second year teachers.

Timeline for district classifications under MSIP 5

Missouri law now prohibits school district classifications to be lowered based on student test scores in years when standards change. Since this was the first year of testing new student standards for mathematics and English language arts, tests in those subjects cannot cause district accreditation to be lowered. Student scores on other tests could affect accreditation. DESE will convene a technical advisory committee to inform revisions required to the scoring guide. The state board will receive recommendations on school accreditations from November through January this school year. Accreditations are based on three years of data under MSIP 5.

No charge to retake seven flawed Missouri Content Assessments

Seven Missouri Content Assessment tests are under revision to reduce the number of items and increase the time allowed to complete the test. Teacher candidates who took one of those seven areas in 2014-2015 and did not pass will be able to take the revised test at no charge. The areas affected are middle school mathematics, middle school science, middle school social science, and secondary biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics.

In other business, the state board:

- Approved the scores that would be deemed basic, below basic, proficient and advanced on the 2014-15 Missouri Assessment Program-Alternative test.
- Adopted updates to the Early Childhood Development Act Administrative Manual to increase alignment with the Parents as Teachers standards.
- Approved a special election for a vacant seat on the Kansas City 33 school board.
- Approved posting a proposed rule change updating regulations affecting school audits.
- Advised DESE staff to request funds needed to provide for the educational needs of Missouri students as they prepare the 2017 budget request to send Governor Nixon in October.

The next meeting of the state board of education will be September 14-15, 2015. Missouri NEA will be there! If you have any questions, contact Brent Fullington or Ann Jarrett at 800-392-0236. Details of state board agenda items can be found at <http://dese.mo.gov/state-board-education/agendas-minutes>.

Respectfully submitted,
Brent Fullington, Vice President, MNEA
Ann Jarrett, Teaching and Learning Director, MNEA

Brent.Fullington@mnea.org
Ann.Jarrett@mnea.org