

AGENDA

Texas Statewide Network of Assessment Professionals (TSNAP) Teleconference
December 8, 2004
1-4 p.m.

Roll Call – Sandra Poth

TEA: Present, Sue Ornelas, test development, Joan Mims, Lara Ayala, Terry Fish,
Julie Jary, Mariana Vassileva (data)

Housekeeping and Opening – Sandra Poth

TSNAP Issues – Elaine Say

- Future teleconference dates –March 29, 2005, June 9, 2005, (1-4 p.m.) TETN sessions at Region Education Service Centers
- Texas Assessment Conference – Sessions presented by TSNAP; volunteer opportunities ***Feb. 6, 2005 to Feb. 9, 2005 registration mailed out by TASA, Register on line www.TASAnet.org Remember to register for the TSNAP breakfast for \$6.00. Dues for TSNAP have been sent out. Please reply soon so you can attend the breakfast.***
- ***Mini sessions will be offered during the conference. These are 30 minutes sessions offered during the regular sessions.***
- ***Please volunteer for the TSNAP booth during the conference. Respond to Joe Orr's email that is coming out soon.***
- Training PowerPoint – availability ***You will be able to access the power points on the TEA website soon.***

Terry Fish- can you talk about the power point module: we are going to post the first four. TEA should have given the OK today. Telpas presentation is still under development. The modules will be posted on TSNAP as well as TEA website as soon as they are ready.

Graphicmail.com is the site that TSNAP is coming through. You may check with your server to see if the site is blocked if you are not getting the TSNAP information.

There will be a round table each day after the general sessions to meet with experienced assessment coordinators to answer any questions. Please join us there.

Dues statements have been sent out. Remember to pay your dues.

Assessment/Accountability Issues

1. TELPAS – latest update

Lara Ayalla; Telpas: Information is on the TEA web. RPTE has a new advanced high level to make it NCLB complaint. All LEP students 3-12 will test with the RPTE until they exit LEP status. We are still looking at first year immigrants for exemptions. Look at the LPAC to decide who takes the test. All information will go on one answer doc. (RPTE and TELPAS) The manual will be out in early Feb. It will be posted on the web about Jan. 5, 2005. TOP: added authentic student writing samples in the training. Training has been on going. We will be requiring 3 or 4 writing samples for grading. You will be required to have the writing samples in the student records file. It will be part of the TEA audit. You may be required to send it to TEA for audit if

requested. In January you will get a letter for all the teachers that rate writing. The topics will be included. We want examples that are resent. The training manual will go over the writing. Kinder will not be required to collect writing. 1 – 12 will be required to be collected.

Linguistic Accommodated Testing: It is on the website for the district coordinators. It is not in the TAKS coordinator manual. LAT is grades 3-8 and 10 for the NCLB. It is only for the students who are LEP exempt according to the LPAC decision. The exemption could be for the TAKS, rpte, It will effect April 5, Mathematics and April 19, math. The test can be given the day of testing or during the makeup days. The LPAC will make the decision on the days. The accommodations will reflect the routine testing accommodations for the exempt students. Training will be Feb. 17th for ESC. QUESTION: we are required to return the answer document on the 7th. We will not have time to give the test.

Terry Fish: If you have to use the days for makeup, get the matereials to us as fast as you can. We will try to get them returned to you as soon as we can.

AYP allows second opportunity to pass. Will we have a second opportunity for the LAT?

LAT is not considered for retention in 5th grade, therefore there will not be any second opportunity.

Planned use for AYP. *First year immigrants need to participate but they are not required to be passers. 2nd immigrants year on are considered passers and failers.*

Download the document from the web and get familiar with it.

There are no plans for the state to develop materials in multiple languages. We have a LEP advisory group that will look into that. In ESL classrooms where the teachers do not speak the language it would be helpful to the students to have the materials in there language. We need to have a lot more discussions.

The LAT is only for the students that are exempt.

What about the student that has just recently entered the school. There will be no classroom procedures in place. We will still have totally exempt students.

TEA: that will be a district decision. Situations come up.

Can TEA give up an audit list for special coding? To check miss coding for LEP. This is an AYP issue. We need another step to make sure that the coding is correct. We want a few days to correct the coding before it determines our accountability.

TEA: I'm not sure what that is. But, the information will be better this year. The coding instructions will be in the coding. The LPAC identifies the

students. We will take the request for additional time to correct the coding back to committee.

Sandra: The opportunity to correct will make or break campuses in the accountability issues. We need help on the issue. Consider the spring break training and the TELPAS turn around. Communicate with TEA if there are any problems.

2. National Comparative Data Study – debrief concerns about testing of high school students; date that results will be available

In high schools, the students had to sit the entire session- that may have been too much. When will we get results?

Riverside is still making sure that they get all the materials back before they give the results. It is a district by district basis as the results become available.

We will have a talk with the people that have an input on the testing problem.

3. Issue of selection of campuses for NCDS, NAEP, TAKS field testing

It seems that some districts have a reoccurring draw on the testing participants.

TEA: WE are aware of the problem. We are trying to get a sampling of the state population. This coming summer we will research ways to sample with a better balance. We did this by grade level but not by school. We will look at school next year.

We would like to have precoding available

TEA: Thank you, we are aware of that. We are looking into it. We will find a better solution.

4. TAKS label – inclusion of composition score – needed for students enrolling in college dual enrollment courses *This is for the ELA test.*

The essay is not on the label. We can bring that subject later but it will not be on the label.

The dual credit standards vary. We have to produce the CSR to get the single digit in a field would cut down on the tasks. The colleges are asking for the ELA writing score.

This is a programming issue. I don't see it taking up a lot of space.

TEA: Mariana: We are looking into it. When we build the report, system design do not report this. We ask the contractor to look at that. We can do it without looking affecting other areas. I will repeat this. It is available. It is not just me deciding on this. And that is all there is about this.

We will keep talking about it. It is a big deal in the system, It is a complicated deal. If we can do that, we would then be reporting on objectives. We will never be able to report on objectives

One of the things that were promised was that the CSR would have history. That never happened. All we need is a c or a 1, 2, 3 on the label.

TEA: I not saying that it is not doable for this spring. It affects all kinds of other areas.

5. TAKS PID errors at exit level **A student entered last year. We placed her in grade 10 with our best knowledge at that time. She took grade 10 TAKS. Now she has completed and moved in the 12 grade with additional understanding of her credits from out of state. She took TAKS at 10. In the fall she passed one test at 1 SEM all other tests failed due to the SEM but passed if at the 2 SEM. We need to fix this as soon as we can.**

Marianna, TEA; grade 10 is what determines it. I have a question for this one. I have to go higher for this one.

This was not a district error. Additional information corrected an error. How do we correct the error?

TEA: Joan: We need to take this forward to make those kinds of changes. Right now there is no policy to make changes. We will be glad to take that forward.

How to prevent future PID? Can we include an option to include an agency use to change the one SEM or 2 SEM.

TEA: Use the history file, then we will go to ans. Doc. to see what the district has for us. We have too many questions of what if. It is like tech. issues. Yes, we have a plan. We will have to work on that.

We are going to do this for only students that are new to the state and not for every student.

This affects graduating seniors that are new to the system.

Joe Orr has a chart to illustrate the concerns on this issue. Tests and dates, error dates available, times to submit error corrections, graduations, staff leave for the summer. July 8th is too late to deal with the error correction. The sooner we can correct the better off we are.

If we want to change some information in the history file, do we have to pay a fee? We do not want any more reports. We use to get labels but now we have to pay for any labels.

TEA: We understand that you do not have to pay if we only change data and do not have to send a report. There is only a charge if you want a report.

6. TAKS – since a new RFP for the state assessment program is being developed it is a good time to address the need for a vertical scale to measure student growth. A vertically equated test across grade levels is necessary to help gauge academic improvement of students. **We want a real growth measure. Not just one year. We need multiply years of growth. We understood that**

there will be a true growth measure. I would like to hear from others throughout the state for comment.

7.

TEA: You can not equate math, the subjects are too different from MS to HS. The vertical linking can not be done. Out tech. advisory committee will be discussing the growth measure tomorrow. We will know something about that soon.

Can we have something in the grades that can be linked? Teachers need it and we need it for individual students. We would like someone from the tech. advisory committee to address this issue in March.

8. Grade 8 Science Field Test - who will test, need for calculators, online administration, possibility of feedback; standard setting process

Sue Arnellus, TEA: All 8th grade students, the online will be taken the week before the paper and pencil test. The science field test will be included in the 8th grade test for April. The answer documents will be the same as the live tests. No calculators will be allowed in the field test.

Online administration, a survey will go out soon asking campus personnel about online on campuses and willingness to participate. If a student takes an online test they will not be required to take the live test.

Feedback- Scores will not be reported back.

Standard setting is being discussed right now. It will be similar to what we did for the TAKS.

Online algebra will be available in the spring. This is optional. There will be June field testing for exit and high level students for online testing. The student can take any or all of the tests not yet passed.

Will the high level testers in June be included in the accountability for the next year?

TEA: It is being discussed.

9. TAAS Issues –did not receive preliminary data; also need to have data reported on out of school students **We have enough TAAS students in the system that we still need the information.**

In out of school we were not provided that information. You still want that information?

TEA: Marianna: I believe that putting them on paper or posting them on website is not an issue. If you still want them back, it doesn't make any difference to us. Those students would be out of school at this time. We didn't get rid of those because we didn't have nothing better to do.

10. Accountability – decision on use of achievement level 1 as set by ARD *for AYP purposes in 05 for passers. Those goals are happening and they will happen.*

TEA: Joan; Accountability said that the use of SDAA results will be discussed in March of 2005. The opportunity to revisit the issue will be at that time.

10. Will the shipping contractor include AAA Cooper this year?

Our shippers have been meeting with that company and we will get the information to you soon.

TEA: We need input from you. We have a request for the GPC for SSI be required to put that plan in writing that documents issues discussed in the meeting with signature sheets for agreement.

In ESC 20 we are already doing that. Acceleration plans can even be sent to other districts when the student moves.

We use the GPC for 3rd grade that can be used as a model for 5th grade. It's not broke so let's not fix it.

TEA: Study Guides, some districts say that they got the study guides too close to the end of school to get them out to the students. We purpose that for the large districts we will ship early with what you got last year and follow up if you need additional. For the small district we will ship in the window after we know how many you need.

The personal study guides were very helpful and need to be a complete set with the released tests.

TEA: This year there will be no released tests this year. It is a legislative decision.

We need to know how many out of district you will be instructing.