



T-SNAP TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

June 7, 2007

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND PRELIMINARIES – Sandra Poth, Northside ISD
PLEASE turn off cell phones and pagers.

TELECONFERENCE MODERATOR – Martha Vannoy, 2007 T-SNAP President

T-SNAP MATTERS

Fall Coordinator Academies - Not-So-New Coordinator Academy – September 18 and 19
New Coordinator Academy – September 25 and 26

2007 Texas Assessment Conference – December 3 - 5

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION WITH TEA AND PEARSON STAFF- Staff addressed topics out of the order below

Testing of Students Receiving Special Education Services-Cari Weiland

- **TAKS-I- the current testing calendar is wrong. There is no TAKS-I for the October Retest in 2007. Texas now has a draft of the proposed testing calendar for 2007-2008. Texas will no longer have 5 options for students receiving services from special education. Next year, we will have TAKS, TAKS-A, TAKS-M, and TAKS-ALT. USDE sent TEA the regulations in April for alternate tests. USDE states that students with nonstandard accommodations will be non proficient for AYP and non participants as well. Texas cannot provide a testing accommodation on an alternate assessment that we don't on the general assessment. We will no longer have expanded accommodations.**
- **Cari told us that TAKS-I was misnamed all along. So, now the test will be TAKS-A or TAKS-Accommodated. It is a general assessment with accommodations. Cari referred to TAKS-A as the "Prince" test or the test formerly known as TAKS-I!**
- **TAKS-M is the 2 % test and TAKS-ALT will be the 1 % test.**
- **504 students will not be able to take a TAKS-A test. Only IEP students will be eligible for the TAKS-A tests. Form 1 will still be available for 504 students.**
- **DBA will be available to special education students if the IEP includes dyslexia and DBA which is the same as this school year.**
- **TAKS-A will not have any retests until July of 2008. Rising 11th graders will take the first retest in July 2008.**
- **Accommodation Manual will be released in draft form in August on the TEA website. The final version will be shipped to districts with the District Campus Coordinator Manual in December.**

- TAKS-M- Texas will have it! It will be a modified assessment which is made as accessible as is possible. TAKS-M students are right above the 1% TAKS-ALT students with very severe learning disabilities. TAKS-M students are most likely working below grade level, and can't make 1 year of progress in 1 year of instruction like their non disabled peers can. The TAKS-M test will have simplified language, math 1, 2, or 3 step problems instead of 4 steps, three answer choices instead of 4. There will also be format accommodations such as larger font size and more white space. TAKS-M will be for all subjects and grade levels as TAKS. There will be Field Testing with TAKS-M! Cari feels that it is safer to field test the items because it is still unclear who these students are and the state needs to set standards and also want to have teacher committees reviews the field test data. We will field test grades 3-8 & 10 all AYP subjects. The field test will be in the fall (October 15-26, 2007) for reading, math and science. In the spring, we will field test writing in March and social studies in April. Cari recommended that teachers of TAKS-M students use the resources posted for TAKS-ALT.
- Sample items and information booklets for TAKS-M will come later. TEA is still working on creating the test.
- SSI and TAKS-M- Cari did not know if there would be three versions of the test for SSI. There are several options:
 - 1. Use the same test multiple times- not good because the reading passages will be memorable and the test would not be reliable
 - 2. Local Choice- create an LDAA
 - 3. Three versions of the state test
- TAKS-M and ELA- TEA found that the published reading pieces were too challenging and so have commissioned pieces rather than use the published pieces which cannot be changed or modified.
- TAKS-M and grade 3-8 Reading- the test will be more accessible so there will not be any paired passages. TEA will split the pairs and present them as single passages. There will be no crossover items.
 - TEA conducted an ELA Study with commissioned pieces from 4 well known writers. Two expository and two literary pieces were commissioned.
- TAKS-M and Spanish grades 3-6- Laura Ayala asked if there was an immediate need to such tests. The ELL Focus Group and several service centers were asked if TAKS-M was needed in Spanish. The response was that no one feels that there is enough instruction in Spanish to warrant the test at this time.
- TAKS-M will not have DBA or Dyslexia Bundled Accommodations.

Testing of English Language Learners-Laura Ayala

- TELPAS- the name change will go into effect for next year. TELPAS simplifies the complexity of RPTE II and TOP. Next year we will have TELPAS for listening, speaking, reading and writing. There will no longer be RPTE II.
- Refresher courses for TELPAS with media clips- If teachers are already trained with TELPAS they will just need a refresher course will be needed to practice and get feedback in listening, speaking and writing which will be about 2 hours long.
- Kinder and first grade will also have domains with media clips. K-1 will have more in depth training which will also have a refresher course.
- New teachers will still have fall training and K-12 teachers who have been previously trained will take a refresher course in the spring from January – March.
- Data base for TELPAS teacher statewide- TEA's goal is to have it ready for next year. Districts will be able to look up trained teachers from across the state that have moved districts.
- TOP Writing Audit- Laura said that comparing the 2006 and the 2007 audit was like night and day. Last year we had a bigger audit and TEA had planned an even bigger audit this year. However, the audit results from last year were so good that TEA abandoned the in depth audit for this year! 560 students were audited in 2007. The audit is being processed right now and statewide results will be out in September. There will not be any district results due to the low number of students audited.

- Laura said that Texas will need to audit listening and speaking in the future because of the USDE regulations. TEA will be looking into the matter in the fall. We may see a second rater going into classes for a second rating or even possibly video taping students for the audit.
- LAT Reading- There were fewer students given test with accommodations because it only includes 2nd and 3rd year immigrants. In general, Laura reported that LAT reading went well and there were few calls to TEA. The LAT Reading results have been published on the TEA website.
- LAT Science- we will have it next year, but it will not be part of AYP.

Accountability- Shannon Houssen

- The state accountability manual for 2007 was posted on the website and the federal accountability AYP Guide for 2007 will be posted next week. Both manuals reference 2008.
- TAKS-M and AYP- Chart for 2008 AYP may be found in a Powerpoint presented to ESC's
- Chapter 17 of the state accountability manual previews 2008
- TAKS-A – see page 134 table 21 for grades and subjects for state accountability
- TAKS-M and TAKS-ALT are not planned for state accountability until maybe 2010, but will be reported.
- Science- What is the AYP % for performance? What is the standard? Good question. NCLB reauthorization proposes it, but right now it is just required that state administer the test.

Legislative Update

- **Senate Bill 1031**

Online Testing- Leanne Weadle and Kim Ackerman

- Kim told us that Pearson has improved the processes that were posted earlier. The improved manuals will start with the July Exit Retest.
- Districts have been asking for a single site for all online testing and starting next school year there will be a consolidated landing page with all sites and more will be added later.
- ETEST files and improved management of those files- Pearson admitted to having student data information that overlapped test administrations this year, but is working to stop that for next year.
- Pearson was asked if it was possible to access student data for mobile students. Many districts have students that move frequently out of district and district test coordinators are forced to call Pearson and have the student added to their district for each student. It is time consuming and ties up personnel at Pearson who work the phones. Districts were told to continue to call Pearson, fax Pearson or email them at aocanswers @pearson .com. Several coordinators had problems with the turn around time from Pearson last year. Districts were promised that Pearson would be able to give us the turn around time on the phone.
- TAKS Exit Retests will be online for all 4 administrations in 2007-2008.
- Districts asked for more training for online testing and that it be rolled at the ESC training so that district coordinators could turn the training around to campuses. Pearson said that they would continue to hold Web X's and some small videos over the web. Several coordinators asked for more training for themselves and for their technical support staff. Steve Peterson, from Region 20, suggested that there be a joint training with district test coordinators and IT district people in the same room with TEA and Pearson.
- There is a tab on the Resource page that will give districts information regarding technical difficulties with online testing. Pearson was asked why coordinators had to continually monitor the resource page in order to get accurate information as to what was occurring.

Test Materials- Terri Fish

- Form 1 booklets- large print, Braille, DBA and oral administrations use this book. The Form 1 books will appear on the Campus Material lists next year.
- Spiral forms- only at the campus level. TEA/Pearson still discussing spirals and how to handle them next year.
- Fed-EX Issues- Pearson is aware that there have been issues with Fed-EX this year and will have "Premier" service starting in July of 2007.
- Resolution of Missing Test Materials- TEA is reviewing the process and districts will get information later.
- Scanning at district level- more information is needed and the item will be placed on the next TETN Agenda.

Security- Victoria Young

- TEA feels that districts are over reporting incidents and is working on a document that will inform districts what must be reported.
- Senate Bill 1031- has a section that deals with security. TEA will sit down in the next week to go through the 35 page bill with Criss Cloudt to determine new regulations.
- EOC- students on the recommended program must pass all 12 with an average of 70 and can't score below a 60. Students will be allowed to retake the tests for any reason.

OTHER TOPICS IF TIME PERMITS