Elementary School Testing Updates and Reminders

February 2, 2018

SAGE:

- SAGE Writing:
  - 1 writing prompt this year
    - Prompts will be randomly selected within the same class
      - Between argumentative or informative prompts
  - New SAGE Writing Score Engine – 2 new codes
    - Prompt_Copy_Match – when +70% of the student's writing comes from the stimulus = student gets a zero for the writing portion of SAGE
    - Duplicate_Text – when +60% of the student's writing is a repeated word, phrase, sentence or paragraph = student gets a zero for the writing portion of SAGE
    - <u>Recommendation:</u> Teachers should give the Benchmark Writing test to ascertain how pervasive these two issues are and then provide more instruction to remedy the coding issues prior to the Summative SAGE Writing Test.
- EL Students and SAGE:
  - Unless an EL student enrolled in the U.S. after April 15, 2018, all EL students will take all of the SAGE tests.
  - 1st year in country: Scores do not count on school accountability, but they do count for the 95% participation
  - 2nd year in country: Scores count only for participation and growth
  - 3rd year in country: Scores count for participation, achievement and growth
- Grades 6-8 Science SEEd Cluster Questions:
  - SEEd cluster questions are on split screens and don't work well on smaller screens like Chromebooks. They tend to be more crowded and require a lot more scrolling.
  - <u>Recommendations:</u>
    - Reserve hard wired computer labs with larger screens for grades 6-8 SAGE Science.
    - Have students use the practice cluster questions on SAGE Portal to become accustomed to the format.
    - Use USB-connected mice for Chromebook labs.
      - Take a brief survey at the following link to request a set of mice: https://tinyurl.com/y7p45o9d
- USBE Board Rule R277-404-6:

- o Revised in the USBE Jan. 3, 2018 board meeting and is effective immediately
- o *"In accordance with Subsection 53A-15-1403(1), and LEA shall reasonably accommodate a parent's or guardian's request to all a student's demonstration of proficiency on a state required assessment to fulfill a requirement in a course."*
- o Implications:
  - ▪ Requires a SAGE proficiency rating of 3 or 4; otherwise, the student will need to fulfill the original course requirement
  - ▪ Requires a signed form from the parent
    - • Could be part of a teacher's addendum to his/her disclosure statement (would need to be part of the teacher's disclosure statement starting with the 2018-19 school year)
    - • A copy of the signed form would need to be kept in the student's CUM folder, following the same procedures as a parental exclusion form
  - ▪ The teacher would have to track parent permission and SAGE proficiency ratings on ORS in the SAGE Portal (immediately available after the student completes the SAGE test)
  - ▪ *This would mean that a parent could substitute a SAGE proficiency rating of 3 or 4 with any course requirement – the 'reasonable' piece would probably restrict it to the grading period in which the SAGE was administered.*
  - ▪ *This could also mean that the parent could choose the 'state required assessment' – be it SAGE, ACT, DIBELS, AAPPL for DLI, etc.*

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