

National Assessment Governing Board

Assessment Development Committee

Report of August 5 - 6, 2010

August 5, 2010

Closed Session

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

In accordance with the provisions of exemption (9)(B) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C., the Assessment Development Committee (ADC) met in closed session on August 5, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Attendees: ADC – Alan Friedman (Vice Chair), Amanda Avallone, Doris Hicks, Henry Kranendonk, Kim Kozbial-Hess, Susan Pimentel; Governing Board Staff – Mary Crovo, Michelle Blair, Susan Loomis; NCES – Elvira Germino-Hausken, Eunice Greer, Samantha Burg; NAEP/ESSI – Teresa Neidorf, Brandon Newbury; ETS – Greg Vafis, Nicole Beaulieu, Jay Campbell, Hilary Persky; HumRRO – Sheila Schultz; Hager Sharp – Siobhan Mueller.

The Assessment Development Committee (ADC) began its closed session by reviewing secure NAEP economics items for the grade 12 pilot test in 2011, in preparation for the 2012 operational assessment. This was the first fully computer-based item review for the ADC, since the items were provided on a password-protected jump drive. ADC members who used the jump drive commented on its usefulness, and provided a number of suggestions for greater accessibility and ease of navigation for the next version of the software.

The economics review was followed by discussion of writing prompts for grades 8 and 12 for the 2011 operational assessment. This is the first fully computer-based assessment for NAEP. The ADC viewed the audio-visual writing stimulus materials via a secure website, while the pilot data and scoring rubrics were presented in paper form. Members also provided suggestions for improving this website for future writing reviews.

The final subject area for the closed session was reading. ADC members reviewed pilot test items for grades 4 and 8 for 2011, in preparation for the 2013 reading assessment. This review was conducted using the traditional paper item booklets.

The Committee thanked NCES and NAEP contractors for the work to date on moving NAEP item reviews to a computer-based platform. Eventually, all NAEP item reviews will be performed using a computer-based format. The Committee noted the overall high quality of the items and also provided numerous comments for improving the items and scoring guides in all three subject areas. The comments will be transmitted to NCES in writing by August 11, 2010.

August 6, 2010

Open Session

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Attendees: ADC – Alan Friedman (Vice Chair), Amanda Avallone, Doris Hicks, Henry Kranendonk, Kim Kozbial-Hess, Susan Pimentel, Oscar Troncoso; Governing Board Staff – Mary Crovo; NCES – Peggy Carr, Holly Spurlock, Suzanne Triplett, Eunice Greer, Elvira Germino-Hausken, Bill Ward, Steve Gorman, Samantha Burg, Emmanuel Sikali; ETS – Jay Campbell, Greg Vafis, Nicole Beaulieu, David Williamson, Dave Freund, Donnell Butler; NAEP ESSI – Kim Gattis, Teresa Neidorf; Westat – Dianne Walsh; AIR – Fran Stancavage; HumRRO – Sheila Schultz; Pearson – Connie Smith; Fulcrum IT – Scott Ferguson; WestEd – Senta Raizen, Joyce Kaser, Jenn Verrier; CRP – Shamai Carter; National Society for Professional Engineers – Sarah Ogden.

1. NAEP Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) Background Variables

ADC Vice Chair Alan Friedman introduced the topic and reinforced the importance of collecting high quality background information for this new, innovative assessment area. Joyce Kaser and Senta Raizen of WestEd provided an overview of the background variables recommendations and the development process. A wide array of background variables was recommended for students and school administrators.

ADC members commended the work by WestEd, but requested that background variables be developed for teachers as well. The rationale for this recommendation included several points articulated by ADC members. First, the TEL content is not taught in a single course, therefore different subject area teachers should be surveyed regarding the three content areas within the TEL assessment, teacher training, and other factors. Second, this is the first assessment and background variables for students, administrators, and teachers should be collected as a comprehensive profile of baseline data. Third, in many schools the teachers will have more knowledge of TEL concepts and instructional strategies than the school administrator. WestEd staff thanked the Committee for their comments and proposed a timeline for developing teacher background variable recommendations in the next few months for ADC review.

2. NAEP Technology and Engineering Literacy Assessment

Framework Outreach – Mary Crovo of the Board staff reported on several national conference presentations regarding the new NAEP TEL assessment, including a well-attended session in June 2010 at the National Conference on Student Assessment in Detroit, Michigan. Members of the project team and committees, as well as Board staff, will continue to seek opportunities for presentations on this new assessment.

Assessment Development Activities - Bill Ward, of NCES, briefed the ADC on development work by NCES and its contractors in preparation for the 2014 TEL assessment. NCES is using an evidence-centered design approach that begins with explicit attention to reporting goals and design decisions. This approach will also gather evidence that TEL will use to make inferences about student performance and explore what features of the tasks TEL can use to collect this evidence. Mr. Ward reported on the

team of experts who will be developing this new, computer-based assessment. Cognitive scientists, subject matter experts, psychometricians, and game designers are all included on the TEL assessment development team. ADC members expressed their appreciation for this new approach for TEL and requested an update at the November 2010 ADC meeting.

3. NAEP Item Review Schedule

Mary Crovo, of the Governing Board staff, briefed the ADC on item review activities for the remainder of 2010. At this point the item review schedule shows that nearly all subject area reviews have been completed, with the exception of new reading passages for review in September 2010. All ADC comments on the items have been submitted to NCES on or in advance of the due dates. Ms. Crovo thanked the ADC for their numerous, substantive item reviews via teleconferences and in-person meetings.

4. Action on August 5, 2010 Item Review Session

While in open session, the ADC passed the following motion:

ACTION: The Assessment Development Committee approves the following NAEP items, with changes to be communicated to NCES in writing by August 11, 2010:

- **12th Grade Economics for the 2011 Pilot Test**
- **8th and 12th Grade Writing for the 2011 Operational Assessment**
- **4th and 8th Grade Reading for the 2011 Pilot Test**

August 6, 2010

Closed Session

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

In accordance with the provisions of exemption (9)(B) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C., the Assessment Development Committee (ADC) met in closed session on August 6, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Attendees: Alan Friedman (Vice Chair), Amanda Avallone, Doris Hicks, Henry Kranendonk, Kim Kozbial-Hess, Susan Pimentel, Oscar Troncoso; Governing Board Staff – Mary Crovo; NCES – Suzanne Triplett, Holly Spurlock; NAEP/ESSI – Kim Gattis; ETS – Jay Campbell, Greg Vafis, Nicole Beaulieu, Dave Freund; Fulcrum IT– Scott Ferguson; Westat – Dianne Walsh; Hager Sharp – Siobhan Mueller.

5. Student Non-Response to NAEP Science Items

David Freund, of ETS, presented a detailed analysis of student response and non-response to secure NAEP 2009 science items at grades 4, 8, and 12. Mr. Freund's briefing was requested by the ADC as a follow-up to the March 2010 and May 2010 briefings on non-response to mathematics items. The presentation included analyses showing different rates of response to multiple choice and constructed response items. For example, students scoring in the lower portion of the achievement distribution tended

to have higher response rates to multiple choice than to constructed response items. Similar to the 4th and 8th grade, high achieving students in 12th grade had lower non-response rates to all item types than their peers who scored lower on NAEP. The ADC was very complimentary of the briefing and the information it provided on the nature of the NAEP science assessment.

6. Writing Computer-Based Assessment

Eunice Greer, of NCES, briefed the ADC on the 2010 Writing computer-based pilot test given to 8th and 12th graders in preparation for the 2011 operational assessment. This is the first fully computer-based assessment for NAEP. Ms. Greer's presentation included many examples of student writing in response to the 2010 pilot prompts. Data shared with the ADC showed an increase in student participation rates for both grades 8 and 12. Those rates have been quite high for writing in previous NAEP assessments, but the 2010 pilot showed an increase in those earlier response rates. ADC members were pleased to see the quality of student writing exhibited by the responses and requested additional information on the 2010 pilot as it becomes available.

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.



Alan Friedman, Vice Chair

August 17, 2010
Date