

# **National Assessment Governing Board**

## **Assessment Development Committee**

### **Report of March 3-4, 2011**

**March 3, 2011**

**Closed Session**

**12:00 – 3:00 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 Thursday, March 3, 2011 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. to review secure NAEP test items.

**Attendees:** ADC – Kathi King, (Chair), Alan Friedman (Vice Chair), Shannon Garrison, Doris Hicks, Brent Houston, Hector Ibarra, Henry Kranendonk, Susan Pimentel; Governing Board Staff – Mary Crovo, Michelle Blair; NCES – Suzanne Triplett; NAEP/ESSI– Kim Gattis; ETS – Jay Campbell; HumRRO – Steve Sellman; Hager Sharp – Siobhan Mueller; Westat – Nancy Caldwell; Fulcrum – Scott Ferguson; Pearson – Brad Thayer.

The Assessment Development Committee (ADC) met in closed session to review secure NAEP Long-Term Trend items for ages 9, 13, and 17. The Committee began its review of reading items for the 2012 operational assessment and then proceeded to examine reading items for the 2016 pilot. Following discussion of the reading items, the ADC reviewed mathematics items for 2012 (operational) and 2016 (pilot). Overall, the Committee was pleased with the items, particularly some of the interesting reading passages. There were a number of changes made to both reading and mathematics items, which staff will submit in writing to NCES by March 9, 2011. This item review session covered more than 250 items, however because of the cross-grade scaling of Long-Term Trend assessments, a number of items were repeated at more than one age level. The ADC completed its review of all reading and mathematics items for the Long-Term Trend assessment and adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

**March 4, 2011**

**Closed Session**

**10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** ADC – Kathi King, (Chair), Alan Friedman (Vice Chair), Shannon Garrison, Doris Hicks, Brent Houston, Hector Ibarra, Henry Kranendonk, Susan Pimentel; Governing Board Staff – Mary Crovo; NCES – Suzanne Triplett; NAEP/ESSI– Kim Gattis; ETS – Jay Campbell, Hilary Persky; HumRRO – Steve Sellman; Hager Sharp – Siobhan Mueller; Westat – Nancy Caldwell; Fulcrum – Scott Ferguson; Pearson – Brad Thayer.

## **1. Demonstration of NAEP Science Interactive Computer Tasks (ICTs) and Update on Reporting Science ICTs and Hands-On Tasks (HOTs)**

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 March 4, 2011 from 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to review secure NAEP test items.

Hilary Persky of ETS provided an in-depth briefing of secure NAEP ICTs that were administered as part of a special study during 2009. These computer-based tasks were given to national samples of students at 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Because of the unique, innovative nature of these tasks and their focus on measuring scientific inquiry, it was important for both experienced and new ADC members to view the tasks at each grade. It was noted that the ADC had extensive involvement in multiple item review sessions for the ICTs during many stages of their development, leading up to the 2009 operational assessment. Following presentation of the ICTs, ADC members were briefed on plans for reporting various types of information from the ICT special study including the paths taken by students as they worked on science simulations, experiments and other ICT activities. The Committee discussed the importance of these findings for the education policy and science communities and the value of sharing released tasks to enhance the report. At the current time, the ICTs are scheduled for reporting along with the HOTs during the summer of 2011.

**March 4, 2011**

**Open Session**

**12:00 – 12:30 p.m.**

**Attendees:** ADC – Kathi King, (Chair), Alan Friedman (Vice Chair), Shannon Garrison, Doris Hicks, Brent Houston, Hector Ibarra, Henry Kranendonk, Susan Pimentel; Governing Board Staff – Mary Crovo; NCES – Suzanne Triplett; NAEP/ESSI– Kim Gattis; ETS – Jay Campbell, Hilary Persky; HumRRO – Steve Sellman; Hager Sharp – Siobhan Mueller; Westat – Nancy Caldwell; Fulcrum – Scott Ferguson; Pearson – Brad Thayer.

## **2. Update on Reporting 2009 Meaning Vocabulary**

Jay Campbell of ETS presented an overview of how NAEP measured meaning vocabulary in 2009, as a refresher for experienced ADC members and to introduce new members to this special study. As stated in the Board’s 2009 Reading Framework, meaning vocabulary is defined as “the application of one’s understanding of word meanings to passage comprehension.” The 2009 reading assessment was designed to include extra vocabulary items in “half-blocks” to increase the overall number of vocabulary items in the reading pool. This unique design will allow NAEP to report a separate vocabulary scale, as stipulated in the Reading Framework. Students at grades 4, 8, and 12 received meaning vocabulary items for each of the reading passages they encountered. Mr. Campbell presented several released meaning vocabulary items to the ADC and explained how the vocabulary scale would be created and reported. The Meaning Vocabulary Report is scheduled for release in the summer of 2011.

### 3. NAEP Item Review Schedule

Mary Crovo of the Governing Board staff briefed the ADC on future item review activities for 2011. In addition to background variables in several subjects, the ADC is scheduled to review mathematics, writing and economics items in the coming months. The ADC will also examine preliminary computer-based tasks for the new 2014 Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) assessment.

### 4. Action on Item Reviews

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 the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in writing by March 9, 2011:**

- 2012 Long-Term Trend Reading Operational Items
- 2016 Long-Term Trend Reading Pilot Items
- 2012 Long-Term Trend Mathematics Operational Items
- 2016 Long-Term Trend Mathematics Pilot Items

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.

  
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Kathi King, Chair

3-14-11  
Date