

National Assessment Governing Board

Assessment Development Committee (Closed Session)

Report of August 4, 2011

Attendees: Kathi King (Chair), Alan Friedman, Shannon Garrison, Doris Hicks, Brent Houston, Henry Kranendonk, Susan Pimentel; Other Board Members – Tonya Miles, Mary Frances Taymans; Governing Board Staff – Michelle Blair, Mary Crovo, Cornelia Orr; NCES – Jonathan Beard, Samantha Burg, Jing Chen, Arnold Goldstein, Elvira Germino Hausken, Drew Malizio, Holly Spurlock, Bill Ward; NESSI – Kim Gattis, Teresa Neidorf, Laura Stein; ETS – Jay Campbell, Hilary Persky, Lonnie Smith, Greg Vafis; Fulcrum IT – Saira Brenner, Jud Cole, Scott Ferguson, Lori Rokus; Westat – Chris Averett, Bob Patchen; HumRRO – Sheila Schultz, Steve Sellman; Pearson – Connie Smith.

In accordance with the provisions of exemptions (9)(B) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C., the National Assessment Governing Board's Assessment Development Committee met in closed session on August 4, 2011 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Assessment Development Committee (ADC) reviewed task outlines (also known as task sketches) for the new Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) assessment. According to the NAEP Assessment Schedule, TEL will be administered to a nationally representative sample of 8th grade students in 2014. The task sketches will serve as the foundation for development of computer-based tasks for small-scale pilot testing in 2012 and a full-scale pilot in 2013. ADC members were very pleased with the exciting, challenging TEL tasks. The Committee had a number of comments and revisions that should make these computer-based tasks more engaging and clearer to students.

The ADC took the following action in open session, under delegated authority from the full Board:

ACTION: The ADC approved 8th grade task sketches for the 2014 Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) assessment, with changes to be communicated to NCES by August 9, 2011.

National Assessment Governing Board

Assessment Development Committee

Report of August 5, 2011

Attendees: Kathi King (Chair), Alan Friedman, Shannon Garrison, Doris Hicks, Brent Houston, Henry Kranendonk, Susan Pimentel; Governing Board Staff – Michelle Blair, Mary Crovo; NCES – Holly Spurlock; NESSI – Brandon Newbury, Laura Stein; ETS – Fekru Debebe, Brent Sandene, Greg Vafis; Fulcrum IT – Saira Brenner, Scott Ferguson; Westat – Bob Patchen; HumRRO – Sheila Schultz; Hager Sharp – Joanne Lim.

In accordance with the provisions of exemptions (9)(B) of Section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C., the National Assessment Governing Board's Assessment Development Committee met in closed session on August 5, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Assessment Development Committee (ADC) began its August 5, 2011 closed meeting by reviewing computer-based NAEP Writing prompts at the 4th grade. These prompts were developed for the 2012 pilot test in preparation for the 2013 Writing assessment of 4th graders at the national level. The 2012 pilot test is important because it will collect the first-ever, nationally-representative data on 4th graders' performance on a computer-based writing assessment. Each student in the NAEP sample will receive two 30-minute prompts and will be able to use commonly available word processing tools in responding to those prompts. In addition to scores on students' written responses, NAEP will capture valuable data on students' use of word processing tools, typing speed, length of the responses, and many other variables.

The ADC had a number of changes to the pilot NAEP Writing prompts, but overall felt that they were well written, engaging, and consistent with the objectives in the Board's 2011 Writing Framework. ADC members commented that the prompts with visual and audio stimulus materials would be particularly engaging for 4th graders.

Following review of the 4th grade Writing prompts, the ADC examined operational items for the national assessment of Economics in 12th grade, which is scheduled for 2012. The items were developed and piloted to replace three blocks of items released with the Economics Report Card from the 2006 assessment.

ADC members discussed item statistics from the 2011 Economics pilot and how various distracters functioned in certain items. Many distracters illustrate common misconceptions students have about fundamental economic concepts. This information will be an important focus when the Economic Report Card is released, particularly for teachers and parents. In looking at the estimated achievement levels for the items, it was noted that there was a mismatch between the estimated achievement level and student performance on the pilot test for a number of items. NCES replied that the achievement level designations will be changed. In addition the ADC had a number of clarification questions and comments on the Economics items and scoring guides, which will be communicated to NCES.

Following the item review the ADC took the following actions in open session, under delegated authority from the full Board:

ACTION: The ADC approved the 2012 4th grade Writing prompts, with changes to be communicated to NCES by August 9, 2011.

ACTION: The ADC approved the 2012 12th grade Economics items, with changes to be communicated to NCES by August 9, 2011.



Kathi King, Chair

8-18-2011

Date