

Executive Committee

May 5, 2021

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm ET

Zoom link to be sent



AGENDA

- 3:00 – 3:05 pm** **Agenda Overview and Opening Remarks**
Haley Barbour, Chair
- 3:05 – 4:15 pm** **NAEP Budget and Assessment Schedule (CLOSED)**
Lesley Muldoon, Executive Director
Peggy Carr, Associate Commissioner, National Center for Education Statistics
- 4:15 – 5:00 pm** **Governing Board Priorities (CLOSED)**
Haley Barbour
Lesley Muldoon
- 5:00 pm** **Adjourn**
Haley Barbour

Information Item

Strategic Vision 2025 Update

Attachment A

Strategic Vision 2025 Update

On September 29, 2020, the National Assessment Governing Board unanimously adopted [Strategic Vision 2025](#). This approval marked the beginning of the development and implementation phase, which is managed by the staff and overseen by the Executive Committee. Staff will provide quarterly updates at the committee level and produce a comprehensive annual progress report every November. Because staff are in the process of developing work plans, this informational item is provided to the Executive Committee only in May 2021 and describes the current progress across committees. Subsequently, staff will provide updates through each of the standing committees.

Strategic Vision 2025 is organized by three pillars: *Inform, Innovate, and Engage*. Housed under the three pillars are eight strategic priorities. Since the March 2021 Quarterly Board Meeting, staff have initiated draft work plans that reflect the strategic priorities to be led by the Executive Committee; Assessment Development Committee (ADC); the Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology (COSDAM); and the Reporting and Dissemination Committee (R&D). The priorities led by each committee are:

Executive Committee	INNOVATE: Monitor and make decisions about the NAEP assessment schedule based on the Board's policy priorities of utility, frequency, and efficiency to ensure NAEP results are policy relevant. (SV 5) ¹
ADC	INNOVATE: Optimize the utility, relevance, and timing of NAEP subject-area frameworks and assessment updates to measure expectations valued by the public. (SV 4)
COSDAM	INFORM: Link NAEP resources with external data sources and disseminate what is learned from the sources so that NAEP can inform policy and practice in understandable and actionable ways. (SV 3) INNOVATE: Develop a body of evidence to improve the interpretation and communication of NAEP achievement levels to ensure that they are reasonable, valid, and informative to the public. (SV 6)
R&D	INFORM: Identify the needs of stakeholders and refine resources to promote sustained use of NAEP data, enabling educators, researchers, advocates, and policymakers to understand and improve student achievement. (SV 1) INFORM: Elevate high-quality uses of NAEP resources to demonstrate NAEP's utility and to highlight the unique value of the Nation's Report Card to inform education policy and practice. (SV 2) ENGAGE: Develop, sustain, and deepen strategic partnerships to ensure that NAEP remains a trusted, relevant, and useful resource. (SV 7) ENGAGE: Help stakeholders understand how the Governing Board and NAEP can illuminate important skills for postsecondary education pathways. (SV 8)

¹ To avoid the perception that the priorities are rank ordered, they are not numbered in Strategic Vision 2025. However, for the purposes of working documents, numbers are used for ease and clarity.

In developing work plans, staff focused first on the next 15 months; that is, identifying the work streams to be pursued through September 30, 2022. In drafting the work plans, staff are managing against the comprehensive resources of the team, including competing demands and timelines across priorities. Staff are also in the process of identifying the resources needed to reach targeted accomplishments, including whether contractual support is needed in any areas.

Below is a brief summary, organized by committee and priority, of the work planned through September 2022. Staff will continue to refine the work plans based on committee guidance and as resources are confirmed (i.e., budget and contractual vehicles).

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is responsible for oversight of the Strategic Vision, on behalf of the Governing Board, and leads activities associated with the NAEP Assessment Schedule (SV 5). In service of SV 5, over the next 15 months the Board and staff will prioritize new and existing relationships with stakeholders in Congress, the Department of Education, and the government relations staff of partner organizations. As part of these partnership activities, the Executive Committee will collaborate with R&D on developing a strategy for communicating NAEP results to members of Congress and identifying productive ways to engage Congressional staff. These activities also contribute to SV 1 and 7, which are led by R&D and described later in this report.

To support the NAEP Assessment Schedule and the Board's [policy priorities](#) of utility, frequency, and efficiency, SV 5 will guide the Board's deliberations related to NAEP funding and the evolution of the next generation NAEP delivery platform.

Assessment Development Committee (ADC)

ADC is charged with leading the priority focused on NAEP subject-area frameworks and assessments (SV 4). Work plans for SV 4 involve completion of the Reading Framework update and initiation of the preliminary activities to inform a potential update to the Science Framework. To the latter, preliminary activities in Science include conducting an initial public comment period to collect input from the field on the state and relevance of the existing NAEP Science Framework; identifying experts to conduct a formal review of the existing framework; and hosting a panel discussion among those experts during a committee meeting to be held sometime in the fall. Turning the corner into Fiscal Year 2022, ADC will proceed, as determined by ADC and the Board, with revisions to the Science Framework.

The Board has commissioned two white papers to inform the design of future framework processes. In late spring or early summer, ADC will hold a joint meeting with COSDAM to discuss the current framework process and, as part of a continuous improvement effort, consider potential revisions to the process.

Associated with framework updates and a review of framework processes is ADC's plan to draft definitions of utility, relevance, and timing, which are central terms specified in SV 4. After drafting these definitions, ADC will engage the full Board in review and revision of those definitions, leading to development of a procedures manual to inform NAEP framework updates. As part of long-term planning, the ADC will map a timeline and schedule for upcoming framework reviews in accordance with the Governing Board's currently adopted assessment schedule, which extends through 2030. The current assessment schedule indicates that an update for NAEP Science will be implemented, if needed, in 2028 and updates for NAEP Writing, Civics, and U.S. History will be implemented, if needed, in 2030.

Finally, ADC plans to revise the Board's Item Development and Review Policy. This revision will include designing new item review procedures, trying out the new procedures, and creating an orientation video on those procedures so that all Board members -- and especially new Board members assigned to ADC -- are informed and well prepared.

Committee on Standards, Design, and Methodology (COSDAM)

COSDAM leads two priorities. The first focuses on linking NAEP to external data sources (SV 3) and the other on developing a body of evidence to improve interpretation and communication of NAEP achievement levels (SV 6).

With SV 3 over the next 15 months, COSDAM plans to collaborate with R&D to catalogue data already linked to NAEP and disseminate this information to stakeholders and partners. From there, COSDAM will lead the creation of a plan for increasing linkages, determine which additional linkages to take on, and begin conducting the necessary studies to do so.

With SV 6, COSDAM will use the existing [National Assessment Governing Board Achievement Levels Work Plan](#), adopted in March 2020 and updated in July of that same year. Activities over the next year and half include:

- Hold panel meetings and conduct pilot and operational studies to review and revise achievement level descriptors (ALDs) in mathematics and reading, bringing forward from those studies recommendations to the full Board;
- Begin the studies to review ALDs in other subject areas;
- Convene ongoing advisory groups to discuss and provide feedback on materials for communicating NAEP achievement levels;
- Collect and evaluate information about current uses of NAEP achievement levels; and
- In collaboration with R&D, develop an interpretative guide for the NAEP achievement levels.

Reporting and Dissemination Committee (R&D)

R&D leads four cross-cutting priorities focused on NAEP--the resources needed (SV 2, 8) and used by NAEP stakeholders and partners (SV 1,7). Staff first identified how these four priorities intersect. They then considered the role and responsibilities of other committees in executing work on one or more of

these four priorities. A goal of the Board is that the Strategic Vision facilitates cross-committee collaboration. The priorities led by R&D are a natural starting point given the role, for example, of stakeholders, partners, and resources across the entirety of the Strategic Vision.

During its May 10 meeting, R&D will spend time discussing its Strategic Vision work plan. This work plan is highly informed by the Board's Outreach and Communications plan, also led by R&D and on its May agenda. Over the next 15 months, the Committee will:

- Prioritize partnerships and means of engagement;
- Meet with partners to determine their needs vis-a-vis NAEP and the Governing Board;
- Use insights from these partner meetings to develop events and resources, e.g., presentations, videos, graphics, and other materials which demonstrate NAEP's usefulness and relevance;
- Plan and execute 2019 NAEP Science initial release event and conduct post-release activities;
- Conduct activities that focus on the divergent trend line pattern seen in NAEP data across several subjects;
- Plan and host NAEP Transcript Study Release event and post-release activities that address partners' needs and connect to post-secondary preparedness;
- Design a strategy for ensuring appropriate interpretation and use of NAEP 2022 results; and
- Create a strategy to elicit deeper stakeholder engagement, building on FY2021 efforts.

Embedded within each of these high-level actions are numerous activities. For instance, prioritizing partner activities involves steps such as culling information gathered over the last two years from stakeholder input; conducting individual calls and meetings; convening focus groups; implementing a conference strategy, i.e., annual convenings hosted by partners; and establishing biannual meetings with partners to develop and sustain collaboration.