

National Assessment Governing Board

Meeting of July 31 – August 1, 2025

Hotel AKA Alexandria

625 First Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

& Virtual

Official Summary of Quarterly Governing Board Meeting

Complete Transcript Available

Initial draft of minutes generated using a large language model (artificial intelligence), which was then fact-checked, reviewed, and revised by Governing Board staff

National Assessment Governing Board Members Present

Beverly Perdue, Chair

Martin West, Vice Chair

Lisa Ashe

Shari Camhi

Michelle Cantú-Wilson

Tyler Cramer

Christine Cunningham

Jhone Ebert

Danielle Gonzales

Angélica Infante-Green

Patrick Kelly

Anna King

Suzanne Lane

Scott Marion

Reginald McGregor

Michael Pope

Julia Rafal-Baer

Ron Reynolds

Nardi Routten

Guillermo Solano-Flores

Jared Solomon

Darein Spann

Jane Swift
Dil Uswatte
Mark White

National Assessment Governing Board Staff

Lesley Muldoon, Executive Director
Elizabeth Schneider, Deputy Executive Director
Rebecca Dvorak
Stephaan Harris
Donnetta Kennedy
Laura LoGerfo
Sharyn Rosenberg
Angela Scott
Joshua Warzecha
Anthony White

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

Matthew Soldner, Acting Commissioner
Gina Broxterman
Enis Dogan

American Institutes for Research

Christina Davis
Marty Hooper
Young Kim
Xiaying Zheng

Council of the Great City Schools (CGCS)

Akisha Osei Sarfo

US Department of Education

Steve Carr

Educational Testing Service (ETS)

Debby Almonte
Terran Brown
Jay Campbell
Peter Ciemins
Amy Drescher
Kadriye Erickson
Robert Finnegan
Mathew Kandathil Jr.
Daniel McCaffrey
Ranu Palta-Upreti
Rupal Patel
Shannon Richards

Lerner Communications

Michelle Lerner
Ashley Zanchelli
Nancy Zuckerberg

Management Strategies

Micajah Anderson
Brandon Dart
Rachel Koether
Zachary Rosensteel

Manhattan Strategy Group

Monica Johnson
Joanne Lim
Ariadne Manikas

Pearson

Matt Brunscheen
Paula Rios
Pat Stearns

Welcome and Opening Comments, Chair's Farewell Remarks, Approval of July/August 2025 Agenda, Approval of May 2025 Minutes, Action on Nomination of Vice Chair for 2025-26

The August 2025 quarterly meeting of the National Assessment Governing Board was opened on July 31 at 10:15 am EDT, by The Honorable Beverly Perdue, Chair, who welcomed attendees and expressed appreciation for their participation. She noted the dual nature of the occasion, as the meeting marked both a continuation of the Board's important work and a farewell to several departing members—Tyler Cramer, Jane Swift, and Dil Uswatte. She stated that these members would be honored later in the day during a reception and thanked them publicly for their service.

Perdue also acknowledged that this was her final meeting as chair of the Board. In her farewell remarks, she reflected on her eight years of service, emphasizing the honor she felt in working with such an intelligent and dedicated group of professionals. She shared her gratitude for the opportunities to engage with data scientists and education leaders on the Board and for the lessons she learned from them. She also expressed appreciation to her advisor, Myra Best, who provided invaluable support throughout her tenure.

Perdue described the structure she had established during her leadership, framing the Board's priorities into four strategic pillars: (1) culture; (2) process; (3) frameworks; and (4) communications. She highlighted the progress made under each of these areas, citing the improvements in communication strategies, the simplification of the framework update process, and the cultivation of a collaborative and transparent culture within the Board. She praised the Board's ability to adapt to new challenges, such as the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) and budget constraints, and emphasized the importance of keeping politics outside of the Board's deliberations.

Perdue commended the Board's productive relationship with the National Center for Education Statistics, especially under the difficult circumstances of the past year. She noted the success of their joint stewardship of the NAEP program and expressed optimism that staffing challenges at NCES would be resolved soon. She publicly thanked the Board's Executive Director, Lesley Muldoon, for her leadership and described her as a "rock star," recognizing her efforts in guiding the Board's work with innovation, efficiency, and clarity. She also extended her appreciation to the Board's staff, acknowledging their critical role in supporting the Board's functions.

Following her remarks, Perdue moved to the approval of the August 2025 meeting agenda. The agenda was formally approved after motions by Anna King and Michelle Cantú-Wilson, with unanimous assent from the members.

The Board then considered the minutes of the May 2025 meeting. After a motion by Suzanne Lane, seconded by Scott Marion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The next order of business was the nomination of the Vice Chair for the 2025–26 term. Perdue spoke about the outstanding service of Marty West in his current role as Vice Chair, observing his extensive contributions and respected leadership within the education community. She highlighted his willingness to take on many responsibilities for the Board and his sterling reputation among congressional leaders, state officials, and education stakeholders. She announced that the Executive Committee had unanimously recommended him to continue in this leadership capacity.

Tyler Cramer formally nominated West to serve as Vice Chair for the upcoming term, with Marion seconding the motion. The nomination was approved without any objection. Perdue congratulated West, expressing confidence in his leadership and her excitement for the contributions he would continue to make to the Board. The decision was met with applause from attendees, and West offered brief words of thanks.

With these formal actions concluded, Perdue transitioned the meeting to the Executive Director's update. She invited Muldoon to provide a report on the Board's recent activities and its upcoming priorities for the next several months, noting that this portion of the agenda was among her favorite parts of the meeting.

Executive Director Update

Muldoon began by recognizing several individuals for their contributions, including Acting Commissioner for NCES, Matthew Soldner, for his leadership and commitment, colleagues from NCES for their collaboration and expertise, and Governing Board staff for their support and dedication.

Muldoon reported that the NAEP program is on track for the 2026 administration, noting that together NCES and the Board had helped address challenges and make significant progress toward planned assessments. She highlighted that later in the meeting, closed sessions would cover a budget update and milestone review for the NAEP 2026 administration, with discussions intended to guide communication with the public, states, and districts participating in the next assessment cycle.

Reflecting on the May 2025 meeting, Muldoon emphasized the value of hearing from representatives of the two task forces the Board convenes to elicit input and feedback from states and districts on NAEP-related issues. She said such efforts strengthen connections with state and district partners and support preparations for upcoming report card releases. And while the Board received in May an embargoed briefing on the 2024 NAEP grade 8 science results, the Board at this meeting will learn the embargoed results of the NAEP grade 12 reading and mathematics assessments and discuss public release strategies.

Muldoon also noted that at this meeting in closed session the Board would discuss potential priorities for future cycles of NAEP, including the use of AI, an area of interest that had been paused due to operational demands. She indicated that the Board would consider a resolution at this meeting to request that Congress postpone the 2028 administration of NAEP to 2029, returning it to odd-year administrations, off-cycle from federal elections.

In closing, Muldoon thanked outgoing members for their valuable service and thanked Perdue for her five years of service as chair and her mentorship. Looking ahead, Muldoon reported that by the November quarterly meeting, the 2024 grade 8 science and grade 12 reading and mathematics report cards would be released and a new chair and four new members would be seated. Perdue thanked Muldoon, and with no further questions, the update was formally concluded.

NCES Commissioner Report

Soldner began by thanking NCES staff members Gina Broxterman and Enis Dogan, along with Board members and staff, for the support they have provided in recent months.

Soldner noted that the core NCES data collections were continuing and on track, including: Common Core of Data (CCD), Private School Universe Survey, Education Demographic and Geospatial Systems, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), and EDFACTS. These data collections serve as the backbone for work done across NCES, the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), and the Department of Education. Soldner also reported that data collection, processing, analysis, and/or reporting were continuing on several other long-standing NCES data collections, including: PISA 2025, National Postsecondary Student Aid Survey (NPSAS) 2023-24, School Pulse Panel 2024-25, and National Teacher and Principal Study 2023-24. He noted that some of these activities were happening with support from additional staff detailed to IES, similar to how the Governing Board staff were providing support for NAEP.

Soldner further explained that all public-use data remain available on the NCES website. In terms of restricted use data, existing licensees can continue to access the data but he explained that no new licenses were being granted at this time, as NCES explores options to make the data easier to access in the future. The Disclosure Risk Review process is continuing but currently experiencing a substantial backlog of requests. NCES is continuing to follow its quality assurance, peer review, and release procedures to make data, reports, and tables available to the public in as timely a manner as possible.

Soldner acknowledged that many people in the Department of Education are thinking about what work is most mission critical and how NCES can be most efficient in the production of flagship materials including the Condition of Education and Digest of Education Statistics. What is the right balance between collecting administrative data versus more complicated survey data? How can ongoing efforts to improve web presence make data more discoverable and useful? These questions are being considered across NCES and IES.

During the Q&A session, West asked about potential delays in data availability in the NAEP Data Explorer. Soldner reassured him that NAEP data would remain on schedule, while some other tools, such as education finance and enrollment counts, might experience delays, with NCES providing direct assistance. West also asked about work being deprioritized due to resource constraints; Soldner explained that essential collections, including NAEP and core cross-sectional studies, were prioritized, while some longitudinal studies were being reevaluated.

Other members raised questions about the status of NCES research centers, ED Facts, and specific NAEP items. Soldner clarified that workforce restructuring had varied impacts across research centers, with some undergoing temporary staffing changes and reorganization. He confirmed that ED Facts operations had been restored with contractor and federal staff support, despite prior communication issues. Finally, Soldner reassured Cramer that the contextual question planned for the 2028 grade 12 NAEP (on where students attended school in recent years) was still on track to be piloted in 2026, addressing members' concerns on this issue.

NAEP Budget Update (CLOSED)

The Governing Board convened in closed session from 11:17 a.m. – 11:56 a.m. EDT to receive an update on NCES's financial projections for the NAEP program and discuss the status of NAEP contracts. The session was closed to the public due to the confidential nature of budgets and contracts, as stated under the provisions of exemption 9(B) of §552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C. Board members engaged in discussion and asked questions on the information provided.

2026 NAEP Administration Update (CLOSED)

The Governing Board convened in closed session from 12:07 p.m. – 1:37 p.m. EDT to receive an update on the progress made since the May Board meeting towards the 2026 NAEP administration. Soldner and Broxterman shared major milestones associated with the 2026 NAEP administration, progress in meeting deadlines, and NCES's standard risk assessment and mitigation strategies. The session was closed to the public due to the confidential nature of budgets and contracts, as stated under the

provisions of exemption 9(B) of §552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C. Board members engaged in discussion and asked questions on the information provided.

Embargoed Briefing on Results from 2024 NAEP Reading and Mathematics – Grade 12 (CLOSED)

Following a brief break, the Governing Board convened in closed session from 1:55 p.m. – 2:59 p.m. EDT to receive an embargoed briefing on the 2024 Nation's Report Card in Reading and Mathematics for Grade 12. Dogan presented key findings from the national results. The session was closed to the public due to the confidential and secure nature of the unreleased data as stated by the provisions of exemption 9(B) of the Government Sunshine Act, [5 U.S.C. 552b](#). Board members engaged in discussion and asked questions about the results.

The July 31, 2025, meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m. EDT.

The Future of NAEP (CLOSED)

The Governing Board convened in closed session from 8:32 am – 10:30 am EDT on August 1, 2025, to discuss opportunities to improve the quality, relevance, efficiency, and utility of the design, content, and reporting of NAEP for 2026 and beyond. Muldoon shared preliminary plans for this work and the Board provided feedback. The session was closed because information on the budget and the federal acquisition process cannot be released to the public. Public disclosure of this confidential information would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of the Government Sunshine Act, [5 U.S.C. 552b](#).

ACTION: Delegation of Authority to R&D Committee Regarding Release Plan for 2024 NAEP Reading and Mathematics – Grade 12

The Governing Board reconvened in open session at 10:53 a.m. EDT, and Reporting and Dissemination Committee Chair Rafal-Baer introduced a motion on behalf of the committee, noting it is responsible for fulfilling the Board's congressionally mandated duty to host the initial release of NAEP results. The committee had recently decided to release the grade 8 science report card alongside the grade 12 reading and mathematics report cards. While the Board had previously approved the science grade 8 release plan in May, the committee had not yet completed its review of the grade 12 report card and required additional time to finalize the release plan. Given the short timeline and the impracticality of convening the full Board in late August, Rafal-Baer requested that the Board delegate authority to the Reporting and Dissemination Committee to approve the release plan for the grade 12 results. The proposed joint release of all three report cards was scheduled for September 9th.

In the discussion that followed, Patrick Kelly asked whether non-committee members would have an opportunity to listen in on the committee's deliberations, suggesting the possibility of a call. Rafal-Baer responded that such arrangements had not yet been determined but emphasized that members would have access to the report card itself. She also noted that media training would be provided to help members with messaging and communication strategies. After discussion, King moved to approve the delegation of authority, with Dil Uswatte seconding. The Board voted unanimously in favor, granting the motion.

Following the vote, Rafal-Baer raised one additional matter, noting that some organizations potentially interested in the release might not yet be on the distribution list. To address this, she proposed circulating a Google spreadsheet where members could add names and contact information of organizations they believed should be notified, even if duplicates resulted. Perdue endorsed the idea, recognizing the importance of broad engagement. With that, the Board concluded the item and proceeded to the next agenda topic.

ACTION: Resolution to Request Postponing NAEP Reading and Mathematics from 2028 to 2029

The Governing Board considered a resolution regarding the schedule for the administration of NAEP reading and mathematics assessments. West provided background, explaining that under current law the main NAEP for grades 4 and 8 in reading and mathematics must be administered every two years, though the statute does not specify whether this must occur in even or odd years. Historically, NAEP had been administered in odd years, but due to the pandemic-related waiver in 2021, the schedule shifted to even years. This shift created a situation where the release of NAEP results would occur in federal election years, raising concern about possible attempts to politicize results.

West noted that the Executive Committee believes it is in the long-term interest of the program to return to an odd-year schedule. He explained that because of the bridging studies discussed in earlier sessions, the results of the 2026 assessments are not planned for release until April 2027, safely beyond the 2026 election season. Building on this, the resolution before the Board proposed formally requesting that Congress allow the 2028 NAEP reading and mathematics assessments to be postponed to 2029, thereby restoring the odd-year cycle. While acknowledging that this adjustment would create a three-year gap without new NAEP data, West emphasized that the benefits of maintaining NAEP's neutrality outweighed this drawback.

Following the explanation, Perdue called for discussion and a motion. A motion was made by Lisa Ashe, seconded by Mark White, and approved by the Board.

Outgoing Member Farewell Remarks

Perdue acknowledged the departure of three esteemed members—Tyler Cramer, Jane Swift, and Dilhani Uswatte—expressing admiration for their contributions and the ways they enhanced the Board's work. She highlighted Cramer's eight years of service, noting his diligence, enthusiasm, and significant contributions to the Executive Committee. Perdue also fondly recalled Cramer's personal dedication to the Board, enthusiasm for early-morning swims, and framed the farewell as a celebration of their shared experience and growth as a Board.

Cramer delivered heartfelt remarks reflecting on his personal journey in education, emphasizing the influence of his family, particularly his mother's work as a remedial reading specialist, and his wife Susan's dedication to high-need educational contexts. He connected these experiences to his perspective on educational assessment, highlighting the importance of continuous improvement over simple outcome measurement. Cramer stressed the role of NAEP as a tool for signaling goals and measuring progress while emphasizing the need for assessments that provide actionable insights into the inputs that drive academic achievement. He offered specific recommendations for enhancing NAEP's effectiveness, including budget monitoring, improving the NAEP Data Explorer, embedding NAEP in state assessments, and addressing student mobility.

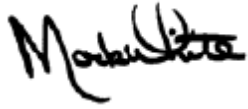
Next, Perdue recognized Uswatte's contributions as an educator and parent, noting her diligence in committee work and the unique insights she brought to the Board's deliberations. Uswatte shared her own reflections, highlighting how her experience on the Board influenced her professional trajectory, including her recent transition to a chief academic officer role at a public charter school. She emphasized the impact of NAEP data on statewide educational improvements, noting how insights from the assessments helped drive policy changes in Alabama and other states. She encouraged the Board to continue incorporating student voices, conducting site visits, and examining contextual variables that affect learning, underscoring the importance of maintaining NAGB as a leading organization in education assessment.

Board members and staff expressed appreciation for the departing members. Soldner also thanked them for their service.

Perdue closed the session with gratitude for all departing members, staff, and the ongoing dedication of Board members. She praised the team for their tireless efforts in supporting NAEP and the broader mission of NAGB, acknowledging Muldoon's dynamic leadership. The farewell concluded on a celebratory note, with reflections on the Board's accomplishments and encouragement for the future work of NAEP and its continuing leadership.

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m. EDT.

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark White".

11/04/2025

Mark White, Chair

Date

National Assessment Governing Board
Assessment Development Committee
Report of July 31, 2025

CLOSED SESSION

Assessment Development Committee (ADC) Members: Patrick Kelly (Chair), Christine Cunningham (Vice Chair), Lisa Ashe, Shari Camhi, Reginald McGregor, Nardi Routten, Jared Solomon, Dil Uswatte.

Other Governing Board Members: Governor Bev Perdue, Marty West.

National Assessment Governing Board Staff: Lesley Muldoon, Sharyn Rosenberg, Josh Warzecha.

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES): Matthew Soldner.

Other attendees:

Educational Testing Service (ETS): Debby Almonte.

The Assessment Development Committee met in closed session on Thursday, July 31, from 3:15 – 4:40 pm (EST). The meeting was closed because it included secure NAEP items that have not been released to the public. Chair Patrick Kelly called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm EST.

NAEP Long-Term Trend Assessment Content (CLOSED)

Kelly introduced the session by noting that Board members had expressed a desire to better understand the content of the Long-Term Trend (LTT) assessments. Board staff member Sharyn Rosenberg prepared a presentation summarizing some of the key issues and considerations and showed several examples from the secure item pools of both reading and mathematics at ages 9, 13, and 17. Committee members asked questions and engaged in discussion on the information presented. The Committee recommended bringing this topic to the full Board for further consideration in November.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm EST.

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.



Patrick Kelly, Chair

October 17, 2025

Date

National Assessment Governing Board
Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology
Report of July 31, 2025

CLOSED SESSION

Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology (COSDAM) Members: Suzanne Lane (Chair), Michelle Cantu-Wilson (Vice Chair), Jhone Ebert, Danielle Gonzalez, Scott Marion, Michael Pope.

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES): Enis Dogan.

Other attendees: ETS: Terran Brown, Amy Dresher, Kadriye Ercikan; Westat: Tom Krenzke.

The Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology (COSDAM) met in closed session on Thursday, July 31, 2025. Suzanne Lane (Chair) called the meeting to order at 3:18 pm EDT.

Lane began the meeting offering updates on activities following the May 2025 COSDAM meeting. Notably, COSDAM members offered input regarding how to approach updating the Reporting Achievement Level Descriptions (ALDs) for the 2026 assessment. Lane reported that Board staff are incorporating this input as they develop a plan for contracting out the work.

Lane introduced the topic for the meeting – to understand key processes and quality control for the 2026 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Lane noted that COSDAM leadership and testing and measurement experts were given the opportunity to meet with NAEP contractors in advance to go into greater detail and ask technical questions. COSDAM attendees came out feeling confident in 2026 plans, and the current meeting was an opportunity to discuss at a higher level with the full group.

The session was closed because it included contractual details that are not open to the public. Public disclosure of this confidential information would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in an open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552b.

Processes and Quality Control for 2026 NAEP Administration

Rebecca Dvorak (Assistant Director for Psychometric) noted the purpose of the session was for COSDAM members to gain a better understanding of the processes and quality controls in place for the 2026 NAEP administration, and as an opportunity to ask

questions to ensure they are confident in the plans. Dvorak began with an overview of general considerations for 2026 that span across NAEP contracts. She next described at a high level some of the major activities and quality control milestones completed or planned for the 2026 NAEP administration related to: (1) the NAEP platforms; (2) sampling and weighting; (3) scoring; and (4) design, analysis and reporting. For each area, Lane, Scott Marion, and Michelle Cantu-Wilson shared key information they learned during the pre-meeting with contractors they felt would be of interest to COSDAM members. Enis Dogan (National Center for Education Statistics) offered additional information throughout, and contractors in attendance responded to questions as appropriate.

COSDAM members appreciated the discussion and were satisfied with the approaches described. COSDAM expressed interest in future discussions to learn more about:

- bridge studies planned to compare the 2026 administration on NAEP-provided devices to school-provided devices;
- weighting procedures; and
- studies planned to compare the updated Reading and Mathematics NAEP Frameworks to the previously used frameworks.

The meeting concluded at 4:17pm EDT.



Suzanne Lane, Chair

8/17/2025
Date

National Assessment Governing Board

Executive Committee Meeting

Report of July 31, 2025

CLOSED SESSION

Executive Committee Members: Beverly Perdue (Chair), Mary West (Vice Chair), Michelle Cantú-Wilson, Tyler Cramer, Christine Cunningham, Patrick Kelly, Suzanne Lane, Reginald McGregor, Julia Rafal-Baer, Mark White.

National Assessment Governing Board Members: Lisa Ashe, Shari Camhi, Jhone Ebert, Danielle Gonzales, Angélica Infante-Green, Anna King, Scott Marion, Michael Pope, Ron Reynolds, Nardi Routten, Matt Soldner (Ex Officio), Jared Solomon, Darien Spann, Jane Swift, Dil Uwsatte.

National Assessment Governing Board Members (virtual): Guillermo Solano-Flores

National Assessment Governing Board Staff: Lesley Muldoon (Executive Director), Elizabeth Schneider (Deputy Executive Director), Becky Dvorak, Stephaan Harris, Laura LoGerfo, Sharyn Rosenberg, Josh Warzecha, Tony White.

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES): Matt Soldner (Acting Commissioner), Gina Broxterman.

Other attendees: digiLEARN: Myra Best; Lerner Communications: Michelle Lerner, Nancy Zuckerbrod; Waypoint Education Partners: Cindi Williams.

Welcome and Remarks

The Executive Committee met in open session from 9:00 – 10:00 am EDT. The session was called to order by Governor Beverly Perdue (Chair), at 9:00 am. Perdue welcomed members and thanked them for being in attendance.

ACTION: Nomination of Vice Chair 2025-26

Perdue proceeded to the first item of business, nomination of the Vice Chair for 2025-26. She noted that she had recommended to members that current Vice Chair Marty West be nominated for a second term based on his valuable leadership and service over the past year. She indicated that members had responded enthusiastically to the recommendation. Tyler Cramer made a motion that Marty West serve as Vice Chair for the coming year, Julia Rafal-Baer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Perdue thanked West for his willingness to serve another term as Vice Chair and West thanked the Board for the confidence placed in him.

Executive Director Update and NAGB Budget Update (CLOSED)

Executive Director Lesley Muldoon provided an update on the Secretary of Education's appointments to the Board for the 2025-26 year, acknowledging that appointments will be made for five Board members and a new chair. She described recent and ongoing Board engagement with Department of Education and congressional leaders. Muldoon also shared the factors impacting the Board's budget along with spending plans and budget projections for FY25 through FY27.

These discussions were conducted in closed session because the disclosure of budget and spending plans would significantly impede implementation of agency actions as it relates to contract actions. Therefore, this discussion is protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(C) of Title 5 U.S.C.

Preparing for Upcoming Report Card Releases (CLOSED)

Perdue noted the upcoming release of the 2024 NAEP Grade 8 Science as well as Grade 12 Reading and Mathematics report cards. She acknowledged strong media and stakeholder interest in the results and in the impact of recent changes at the Department of Education. She introduced Cindi Williams, CEO of Waypoint Education Partners, who has a wealth of experience using NAEP with federal leaders, states, the media and research community. Perdue and West led a discussion among members about preparation for the report card releases.

This discussion was conducted in closed session because it included discussion of data which cannot be released to the public at this time. Public disclosure of this confidential information would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of the Government Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

At 10:00 am EDT, Chair Perdue adjourned the meeting.

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.



08/26/2025

Beverly Perdue (Chair)

Date

National Assessment Governing Board
Nominations Committee
Report of July 8, 2025

CLOSED SESSION

Nominations Committee Members: Reginald McGregor (Chair), Lisa Ashe, Tyler Cramer, Patrick Kelly, Scott Marion, Ron Reynolds, Nardi Routten.

Nominations Committee Member Absent: Angélica Infante-Green, Suzanne Lane.

National Assessment Governing Board Staff: Lesley Muldoon (Executive Director), Elizabeth Schneider (Deputy Executive Director), Stephaan Harris (Assistant Director for Communications).

Welcome and Agenda Overview

The Nominations Committee met in closed session on Thursday, July 8, from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm (EDT). Chair Reginald McGregor called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm (EDT). He welcomed members and invited opening comments. He noted that Nominations Committee Staff Liaison Elizabeth Schneider was out of town presenting at a conference and would not be able to participate in the full meeting. He then asked Lesley Muldoon to provide an update on the 2025 nominations cycle.

Update on 2025 Nominations Cycle

Muldoon shared that the Office of the Secretary is moving forwards with appointments and has made some preliminary decisions. She noted that given the timeline and process for vetting candidates, it was unclear if the Board would know before the July 31-August 1 Board meeting whether Scott Marion would be reappointed in the testing and measurement category and who the appointees would be in the categories of elementary school principal and general public representative. She indicated that the Secretary's Office is working directly with the National Governors Association on the two gubernatorial positions.

Review of Proposed Descriptions of Open Categories for 2026 Nominations Cycle

Stephaan Harris noted that the committee has been working with staff in recent cycles to ensure that the definitions provided for the open seats on the Board offer as much clarity as possible to prospective applicants and those conducting outreach for applicants. He shared that language had been previously updated for the category of general public representative (parent leader). He then presented proposed updated definitions for four of the categories that will be open in the 2026 cycle.

On the proposed definition for secondary school principal, Scott Marion asked if secondary schools must have a grade 12, or if they could be grades 8-10, for example. Lisa Ashe asked if early college high schools qualify. Staff committed to reviewing the statute to see how secondary school is defined in the law and to sharing updated language with the committee.

On the proposed definition for the curriculum specialist, Harris noted valuable input from the Board's current curriculum specialists, Lisa Ashe and Christine Cunningham. The committee applauded the revised definition.

On the proposed definition for the fourth-grade teacher, Marion asked if a reading interventionist or math specialist who supports K-4 would be eligible. Patrick Kelly, Lisa Ashe, Nardi Routten and others said that as long as someone is primarily engaged in teaching at the fourth-grade level, they should not be disqualified. They asked staff to consult the legislation to confirm. It was noted that the language for the definition for the eight-grade teacher should align with that for the fourth-grade teacher.

It was noted that there is no proposed update to the definition of the state school board member. Muldoon indicated that a request has been made by Board leadership to the Secretary's Office for a one-year extension of the term of current state school board member Marty West, whose reappointment was made for only three, rather than four, years. She indicated that the Secretary's Office is finalizing a decision regarding this request and that we do not currently plan to conduct outreach for an opening in this category for the 2026 cycle but that confirmation would be sought on this issue before September.

Harris said that he would consult the NAEP law and send to the committee for their review and approval updated language to describe the secondary school principal and two teacher positions.

Discussion: Outreach Strategy for 2026 Categories

Harris next walked through the outreach strategy for the positions for which the Board will be seeking applications in the 2026 cycle: curriculum specialist, eighth-grade teacher, fourth-grade teacher, general public representative (parent leader), and secondary school principal.

He noted that general outreach would involve updating the “Join the Board” page on the website to include details about the Board and its work, promoting the openings on social media channels, purchasing paid LinkedIn ads, and using e-mail and newsletter distribution to both general and specialized audiences based on the open positions. He reported that efforts would also include outreach to stakeholders in TUDA and rural districts.

Harris added that individualized efforts specific to each position would be undertaken, with work involving social media promotion, specialized e-mail content and distribution as well as one-on-one meetings with relevant stakeholders with influential audiences and networks. He provided examples of groups that would be approached for each category. Lastly, he presented a timeline of activities, including creating contact lists in June and July, updating the “Join the Board page” page on the website in August, launching the official campaign to receive nominations on September 2, conducting extensive outreach in October and November, and concluding the campaign on November 2, the deadline for applications.

The committee responded favorably to the plan. In regard to the general public representative – parent opening, Tyler Cramer suggested making a concerted effort to reach out to districts, especially those in the TUDA program, and states that have advisory boards on assessments or parental advisory groups.

Next Steps and Adjourn

The meeting adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m. (EDT).

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.



Reginald McGregor, Chair

September 4, 2025

Date

National Assessment Governing Board
Reporting and Dissemination Committee
Report of July 31, 2025

Reporting and Dissemination Committee (R&D) Members: Julia Rafal-Baer (Chair), Mark White (Vice Chair), Tyler Cramer, Angélica Infante-Green, Anna King, Ron Reynolds, Darein Spann.

National Assessment Governing Board Staff: Laura LoGerfo, Stephaan Harris, Elizabeth Schneider.

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Staff: Gina Broxterman.

Other attendees: Educational Testing Service (ETS): Robert Finnegan. Lerner Communications: Michelle Lerner, Nancy Zuckerbrod. Westat: Lisa Rodriguez.

Reporting and Dissemination Committee Chair, Julia Rafal-Baer, called the meeting to order at 3:16 pm EDT. She began by acknowledging that this meeting would be Tyler Cramer's last.

Cramer served on the Reporting and Dissemination (R&D) Committee from the first moment of his tenure eight years prior and proved a steadfast, diligent, thoughtful participant throughout his entire service. Rafal-Baer thanked Cramer for his contributions and for the care with which he undertook his duties as an R&D member. She declared that Cramer would be remembered as a legend in the annals of R&D and invited him to offer any farewell remarks.

Cramer expressed appreciation for the Chair's kind words and for the transformation he has witnessed in the approaches taken to report and disseminate National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) results over his tenure on the Board. He thanked the staff for their support and warned that if he decides to pursue a Ph.D., Assistant Director for Reporting and Analysis Laura LoGerfo will be tapped for his dissertation committee.

Communications Update

Laura LoGerfo gladly accepted Cramer's offer then provided an update on the implementation of the Board's communications strategy. She began by reviewing recent

press coverage of NAEP. Despite little news about NAEP since the May meeting, media, op-ed writers, and researchers continue to use NAEP data to supplement or support their points. Organizations such as Curriculum Associates, Zearn, and Campaign for Grade-Level Reading regularly refer to NAEP and feature NAEP data on webinars. Stephaan Harris, the Board's assistant director for communications, sends news clips daily to board members who opt to receive them, and every day, there is at least one cite or use of NAEP.

Most of LoGerfo's update revealed plans and efforts underway for the upcoming release of results from the Nation's Report Card. These activities included inviting both education reporters and those focused on science to cover the release, drafting FAQs for Board members and staff to address questions that may emerge in the weeks before and after the release, and creating video highlights of the results to accompany the data release. LoGerfo also demonstrated [the latest data tool](#), which resides on [nagb.gov](#) to learn about changes since 2019 in the percent of students scoring at each of the achievement levels.

LoGerfo concluded her update and invited Board members to ask questions and offer feedback. Rafal-Baer recommended that staff could use artificial intelligence (AI) to optimize the appearance and navigation of the Governing Board's website. AI could provide a list of edits to make the website more easily searchable by Google, Claude, ChatGPT, etc. and determine if AI agents are pulling from the pages the Board intends.

Cramer wondered if the Board could show changes in cohort performance on NAEP as the fourth- and eighth-graders age up to the next NAEP assessment. For example, at what level were fourth graders performing in 2015, and how did that cohort of fourth graders (not the same students, but same cohort) perform in 2019 at eighth grade? Cramer remarked that this analysis also can compare the scores of those who start at roughly the same percentile and see where they score four years later to distinguish which districts see the most progress with struggling or advanced or average learners.

Rafal-Baer appreciated that the Board has avoided posting too much on social media, especially as changes unfold quickly on the education landscape. The Board is taking a systematic, deliberative approach to social media to ensure the NAEP and Governing Board focus rests squarely on NAEP. Rafal-Baer requested a "listening report," which tracks and captures all iterations of #NAEP online.

At the end of this discussion, the committee entered a closed session to discuss plans to release results from the Nation's Report Card, specifically grade 8 science and grade 12 reading and mathematics. To allow committee members to consider the release plan

and to draft messaging, the committee met in closed session so they could freely cite embargoed data, which must be kept confidential and secure. This session was closed under exemption 9(B) of the Government Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b).

A brief summary of what transpired in the meeting and can be shared publicly follows: The committee agreed to release the grade 12 NAEP results at the same time as the science grade 8 results. They also agreed to request that the Board delegate authority to R&D for approving the final release plan, which is usually a full Board action.

LoGerfo urged all the committee members to attend the media training the Board will host and to encourage their Board colleagues to participate as well. R&D Committee Chair Rafal-Baer recommended that Board members reach out to their constituents and advocacy groups of interest with news about the upcoming release. She offered to create a Google doc in which Board members could add their pertinent contacts (name, organization, contact information) to help the communications outreach efforts of Board staff.

LoGerfo next turned to Robert Finnegan of ETS who presented compelling embargoed data on grade 12 participation, English learners' score differences on NAEP Science over time, and the achievement gap dashboard.

The closed session ended at 4:43 pm EDT, after which R&D Committee Chair Rafal-Baer adjourned the meeting.

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.

Julia Rafal-Baer

September 16, 2025

Julia Rafal-Baer (Chair)

Date