National Assessment Governing Board
Assessment Development Committee
Report of March 4, 2016

Assessment Development Committee (ADC) Members: Shannon Garrison (Chair), Cary Sneider (Vice Chair), Frank Fernandes, Doris Hicks, Carol Jago, Dale Nowlin, Chasidy White.

Governing Board Staff: Mary Crovo.


ADC Chair Shannon Garrison called the meeting to order and welcomed new Committee member, Carol Jago. Carol is the Board’s second Curriculum Specialist, in addition to ADC Vice Chair Cary Sneider.

Update on NAEP Topics

• Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) Report Release Activities

Governing Board Deputy Executive Director Mary Crovo, and ADC Vice Chair Cary Sneider, provided an update on spring 2016 release activities for the 2014 NAEP Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) Report Card.

Throughout the TEL cycle, the ADC has received briefings on various TEL topics such as assessment administration, contextual variables analysis, achievement levels setting, and web-based report development. On the latter topic, ADC has met twice in joint session with the Reporting and Dissemination (R&D) Committee to provide input and feedback to NCES on the TEL report content and format.

A release plan for the TEL report is an action item on the Board’s Reporting and Dissemination Committee agenda for this meeting, which the full Board will consider on Saturday, March 5. Taken together, the activities surrounding the TEL release include pre-release communications and outreach strategies, embargoed briefings, an in-person release event at the Michigan Science Center in Detroit, and several post-release panels with diverse stakeholders. One of these post-release panels, led by ADC Vice Chair Cary Sneider, will feature assessment and subject field experts who will discuss TEL contextual variables and other related issues for an audience consisting primarily of educators, researchers, and assessment experts.
The goal of these activities is to provide various stakeholders with a comprehensive overview of the TEL assessment, followed by findings and data to help ensure accurate reporting to the public and deeper understanding of results. ADC members commented on the comprehensive set of release activities planned for TEL.

- **NAEP Mathematics Framework and the Common Core State Standards**

Mary Crovo described a scheduled session at the April 2016 annual meeting of the National Council on Measurement and Education (NCME).

After the release last October of the 2015 NAEP Mathematics Report Card for grades 4 and 8, Board members discussed issues relating to the relationship between the NAEP Mathematics Framework and the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics. To gain more insight into this issue, an NCME session has been scheduled for April 10, 2016.

Following remarks from two prominent panelists with differing views on the issue, Michael Cohen of Achieve and Chester Finn of the Fordham Institute, Board Chair Terry Mazany will engage the audience in a question and answer session. Board staff will be on hand to takes notes on the presentations and Q&A session. The ADC will receive an update on this NCME session at the May 2016 Board meeting.

ADC members noted that the NCME session is well timed, given the recent NAEP mathematics results and issues surrounding the Common Core State Standards. Committee members expressed an interest in hearing about the discussion between Michael Cohen and Checker Finn, as well as the question and answer session with audience members.

- **NAEP Item Review Schedule**

Mary Crovo provided an update on the NAEP item review schedule provided in the Board materials, which covers a period from November 2015 to August 2016. There are numerous cognitive and contextual items in various subjects and grades scheduled for ADC review this spring. Members will be engaged in both teleconference and in-person review sessions in the next several months.

**Closed Session: 10:50 - 11:55 a.m.**

**Assessment Development Committee (ADC) Members:** Shannon Garrison (Chair), Cary Sneider (Vice Chair), Frank Fernandes, Doris Hicks, Carol Jago, Dale Nowlin, Chasidy White.

**Governing Board Staff:** Mary Crovo.

**NCES Staff:** Allison Deigan, Eunice Greer, Holly Spurlock, William Ward.

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, 2016 from 10:50 to 11:55 a.m. to review secure NAEP test questions in mathematics at grades 4 and 8. This briefing included discussion of secure NAEP test items which have not yet been publicly released.

Review of NAEP Mathematics Tasks in Grades 4 and 8

The ADC met in closed session to review scenario-based tasks (SBTs) in grades 4 and 8 developed for pilot testing in preparation for the 2019 NAEP Mathematics Assessment.

Open Session Action: The Assessment Development Committee approves the mathematics scenario-based tasks at grades 4 and 8 for pilot testing in preparation for the NAEP 2019 assessment, with changes to be communicated in writing to NCES.

Closed Session: 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Assessment Development Committee (ADC) Members: Shannon Garrison (Chair), Cary Sneider (Vice Chair), Frank Fernandes, Doris Hicks, Carol Jago, Dale Nowlin, Chasidy White.

Governing Board Staff: Michelle Blair, Mary Crovo.

NCES Staff: Allison Deigan, Eunice Greer, Holly Spurlock, William Ward.


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, 2016 from 12:00 to 12:45 p.m. to receive an update on the NAEP transition to digital-based assessment. This briefing included discussion of secure NAEP test items and data which have not yet been publicly released.

Update on NAEP Transition to Digital-Based Assessment (DBA)

Eunice Greer of NCES provided a briefing on activities related to the NAEP transition to digital-based assessment (DBA) in reading, mathematics, and other subject areas.
NAEP’s transition from a paper and pencil assessment to one that is being presented on tablets (i.e. Digital-Based Assessment) continues to move ahead along several paths.

- Administration of NAEP’s reading and mathematics items in paper and pencil and tablet modes, begun in January of 2015, was an essential part of the 2015 DBA transition study.
- Results for try-outs and cognitive labs are contributing to understanding of DBA. Analyses of student performance data, along with tryout and cognitive lab data are currently underway.
- Concurrently, the piloting of new DBA items in reading and mathematics as part of the 2016 NAEP assessment is nearing completion in March 2016.

This session addressed two topics of interest to the Assessment Development Committee:

1) Ms. Greer provided the ADC with a status update on DBA development for reading, mathematics, U.S. history, geography, and civics assessments.

2) The ADC was then briefed on how emerging data, the NAEP Reading Framework, and contemporary, research-based understandings of texts and comprehension should inform and guide the development of discrete items and scenario-based tasks for reading. The session included secure NAEP data and test questions.

ADC members engaged in a question and answer session with Ms. Greer following the presentation. Issues of interest focused on innovative ways to measure NAEP framework content and skills using DBA tasks, how process data can be used to inform achievement results, and other areas.

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.

______________________________  March 14, 2016
Shannon Garrison, Chair  Date