

Standards of Learning Innovation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Assessment 2.0 Subcommittee Meeting

Teleconference

October 13, 2015 – 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Attendees

Present Committee Members:

Dr. Billy Cannaday, Dabney Carr, Dr. Jared Cotton, Dr. Kim Dockery, Dr. Jenny Sue Flannagan, Sarah Gross, Dr. Roger Hathaway, Lillie Jessie, Dr. Tara Lateef, Dr. Brian Matney, Dr. Stewart Roberson, Dr. Alan Seibert, Karen Thomsen, Dr. Christine Walther-Thomas, Wade Whitehead, and Ben Williams.

Absent Committee Members:

Meg Gruber, Secretary Anne Holton, Dr. Sue Magliaro, Dr. Laurie McCullough, Dr. Steve Staples, and Renee Zando were absent.

Scribe

Stefani Thachik

Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Discussion related to Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT)**
- **Opportunity to Provide Feedback on Assessment 2.0 Documents**
- **Overview of Additional Assessment Resources**
- **Next Steps**
- **Adjournment**

Welcome and Introductions

- **1:06pm** – Dr. Jared Cotton called the meeting to order.
- Dr. Jared Cotton thanked the subcommittee for their work and provided an overview of the agenda.
- Dr. Jared Cotton asked if anyone had follow-up questions from previous meetings.
 - Members discussed the status of technology-enhanced items and measurement items, as well as teacher feedback on expedited retakes.
 - Shelley Loving-Ryder shared the Department of Education has heard the committee's concerns and is moving forward on partial credit for technology-enhanced items, however change by this spring's test is difficult.
- Update from Virginia Board of Education provided by Dr. Billy Cannaday and Diane Atkinson.
 - Dr. Billy Cannaday reminded the group of the state board meeting next Thursday. The meeting will include approval of guidelines for graduation requirements and alternative pathways to standard units of credit.
 - Diane Atkinson said the board will be adapting guidelines to new accreditation ratings, as well as hearing an update from the Accountability 2.0 subcommittee and discussing what a high school graduate should look like in order to refocus on what students need and how to get there.

Discussion Related to Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT)

- Dr. Jared Cotton asked the group for additional questions and concerns on computer adaptive testing (CAT) with a focus on: what concerns do members of the subcommittee have related to CAT; what additional information does the subcommittee need to make an informed decision related to CAT?
 - Dr. Jared Cotton opened the discussion with sharing additional research and findings, including his personal experience in Henry County in which middle school math scores increased by 15%. The only negative criticism heard from teachers was that students could not revisit previous questions. Dr. Jared Cotton also updated the assessment model to include CAT *or* growth measures.

- Dr. Tara Lateef shared her experience of CAT which included that students were more stressed because they were monitoring their perceived progress along the way. Dr. Lateef would like to know more about where growth comes in for the CAT and how long students spend on CAT questions. Dr. Jared Cotton and Shelley Loving-Ryder followed up by sharing CAT can measure proficiency and growth for students, as well as allow for more versions of the tests.
- Wade Whitehead brought up issues related to test security and cheating, calibrating scores, reducing student stress, IEP accommodations, students' situational memory, current state spending and the use of diagnostic measures developed by teachers.
- The group discussed the need for additional resources, including the formation of a possible subgroup within the committee to focus on challenges and opportunities of CAT.
- Other feedback included developing a communication plan to help link instruction to assessment, confusion over scoring and reporting of CAT, and use of the test with special student populations.
- Dr. Jared Cotton emphasized the group has shown they value growth as a measure and recapped the direction of the committee.
- Dr. Stewart Roberson urged the committee to focus on the 'what', which is embracing growth measures, while moving the 'how' or delivery to a future conversation.

Opportunity to Provide Feedback on Committee Documents

- Dr. Jared Cotton shared the revisions he made to committee documents and asked for feedback on the following documents: Assessment Glossary; Assessment Design Principles; Proposed Assessment Model (See Dropbox).
 - The discussion on the assessment model included adding additional language for English language learners and students with disabilities; whether to directly mention CAT or use as an illustrative example; how to communicate the model with a focus on what aligns with current work and what is new; and incorporating criteria from Linda Darling-Hammond's presentation.

Overview of Additional Assessment Resources

- Dr. Jared Cotton introduced two new resources provided which include a matrix of other states and countries organized around the committee's design principles and an article from Jay McTighe (See Dropbox).
 - The committee had no follow up questions about these resources.

Next Steps

- Dr. Jared Cotton asked for any additional comments from the committee.
 - Dr. Kim Dockery asked committee to consider what state could do to support the work and what the committee could do to convey forward thinking.
- Dr. Jared Cotton thanked the committee and will send additional information out to the subcommittee in advance of the full committee meeting.
- Next Full Committee Meeting Dates:
 - October 29, 2015, 10:00am - 1:00pm
Patrick Henry Building, West Reading Room
1111 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219

Adjournment

- Jared closed the meeting out at 2:36pm.