

# THE NH SW ASSESSMENT SUITE

How the NH DOE supports NH  
Schools

November 2018

# Bureau of Instructional Support

- ▣ Funding from the Federal Government to Support our Schools
- ▣ Title I– Funding for Disadvantaged or At-Risk Youth (Parts A, C and D)
  - Homeless
  - Foster
  - EL Learners
  - SES

# Continued

- ▣ Title II –Supporting Effective Instruction
- ▣ Title IV A – Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
- ▣ Title IV B – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers
- ▣ Title V B – Rural and Low-Income School Program
- ▣ Title VII – McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act: Education for Homeless Youth

# A Little History

- ▣ ESEA – Elementary and Secondary Education Act – enacted 1965
- ▣ ESSA – Every Student Succeeds Act (2015), replaces No Child Left Behind Act (2002)
- ▣ New Hampshire's Consolidated plan was approved by the US Department of Education in January 2018.

# Assessment Regulations

States Receiving Federal Funds must continue annual statewide tests in reading/language arts and mathematics to all students in grades 3-8 and once in high school as well as science in at least once in each of grades 3-5, 6-9, and 10-12.

(Section 1111(b)(2) of the ESEA)

# Assessment Requirements

- ▣ Requires that each state implement high-quality, valid, reliable and fair annual assessments that are the same for all students in the State.
- ▣ Requires that assessments be aligned with the full breadth and depth of State academic content standards.
- ▣ Requires that assessments measure student achievement based on challenging college- and career-ready State academic achievement standards.

# NH's Assessments

- ▣ NH SAS (Statewide Assessment System)
  - Summative: grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics
    - ▣ Grades 5, 8 and 11 Science
  - Interim Assessments – used by teachers and schools to determine how students are progressing at specific intervals throughout the school year.
  - Modulares – used by teachers to inform them as to how students are performing on specific skills.

# PACE

- ▣ Innovative Assessment and Accountability Demonstration Authority granted by the US Department of Education under ESSA.  
(fully defined on page 84 of the ESSA)
- ▣ Provided an innovative approach for assessing students against its challenging academic standards.
- ▣ NH's application was approved in September 2018



# An Innovative Assessment

- ▣ The NH DOE uses the term “PACE School” as those schools using the innovative assessment for **accountability**.
- ▣ Currently there are 7 districts (1 district has only 1 school) and 6 schools participating in the project.

# Performance Assessments

- ▣ Performance Assessments are local assessments that can and should be used by all schools as an authentic way of assessing a student's knowledge in any subject area.
- ▣ PACE schools use these assessments for **accountability** purposes, all other schools may be using them as a known best practice for instruction.

# A Balanced Approach

- ▣ Traditional Assessment helps answer the question, “Do you know it?”
- ▣ Performance Assessments helps answer the question, “How well can you use what you know?”
- ▣ A balance of the two provides teachers with the full picture of what students know and are able to do.
- ▣ Gives more authentic feedback to parents about the continuum of learning.

# To Compare Each

## PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS

- ▣ Are used in any classroom
- ▣ Are used in any subject
- ▣ Locally Developed
- ▣ Administered and Scored by Teachers
- ▣ Used to make determinations about a student's understanding around a skill or standard

## PACE FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

- ▣ Used as an accountability tool to determine student proficiency levels
- ▣ Common Tasks are Developed by teachers in the project with expertise given from The Center of Assessment
- ▣ Common Tasks are used for calibration purposes

# Continued

## PACE

- ▣ Rigorous application of knowledge
- ▣ Show not tell
- ▣ Allows demonstration of knowledge and skill
- ▣ Provides a foundation for differentiation instruction.
- ▣ Teachers locally develop other performance assessments that go into determinations about student proficiency
- ▣ Proficiency scores are determined from grades, teacher judgments, and calibration work.

# School Day SAT

- ▣ Taken by high school juniors
- ▣ NH DOE has an active contract with College Board whereby the state pays for every junior in the state to take the SAT one time, in their junior.
- ▣ Students must take the test on the School Day determined by the State
- ▣ Saturday administration cannot take the place of the School Day for accountability.

# Dynamic Learning Maps

- ▣ States must provide an alternate test for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.
- ▣ The number of students taking this test must not exceed 1% of the total number of students eligible to test in any given year.
- ▣ This test is based on alternate achievement state standards.

# Other Initiatives

- ▣ There are many initiatives outside of the NH DOE
  - No Grades No Grades
  - Replacement Units
  - Student Exhibition
  - Competency Grading
  - Performance Based Assessments



# Questions??

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