

Dear [District Test Coordinator](#),

Good day and welcome to all new and returning DTCs.

Below is an email message that was sent to your Superintendent on Tuesday afternoon from the Commissioner's Office regarding our recent data release.

We also want to inform you that the Item Analysis Reports for Grade-Level Assessments are now available within the Missouri Comprehensive Data System (MCDS) portal. Curriculum and Assessment are working to update the DESE website with updated documents including:

- Blueprints for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science
- 2017-2018 LEA Guide to the Missouri Assessment Program
- Information for training on using the new End-of-Course (EOC) testing platform, Nextera

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Assessment at [assessment@dese.mo.gov](mailto:assessment@dese.mo.gov).

If you have questions about Annual Performance Report (APR) calculations, please contact Accountability Data at [accountabilitydata@dese.mo.gov](mailto:accountabilitydata@dese.mo.gov).

Thank you for all you do.

DESE Curriculum and Assessment Staff

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Dear Superintendents:

I am writing to you today to follow up on the email I sent to you on July 27 regarding assessment updates.

#### **Grade-Level Assessments**

State totals for Grade-Level Assessments will be presented to the State Board of Education at the August 15 meeting.

Here is a link to the board item, including the statewide results

<https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/MAPResultsAug2017.pdf>. District reports are not yet available.

#### **End-of-Course Assessments**

End-of-Course results are still under review and will not be released at this time.

It has come to my attention that there may be some misunderstanding and miscommunication regarding the term “form effect” and its implications. As you know, more than one form is developed for each assessment. Part of the vendor’s responsibility is to equate the assessment forms (i.e., analyze test forms to determine that they cover the same content and same level of rigor). As noted in my July 27 email, once statewide results were available DESE requested the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) review for comparability. The TAC concluded that there was a form effect for the English II and Algebra I EOCs; therefore, additional review is warranted. We will update you as additional information becomes available.

These EOC forms will not be used again. We will transition to new Missouri-educator developed English language arts and mathematics assessments in the 2017-18 school year.

Providing you with timely and accurate data continues to be our priority. Thank you for your patience as we work through the EOC issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Questions specific to assessment results may be directed to Assistant Commissioner Blaine Henningsen [blaine.henningsen@dese.mo.gov](mailto:blaine.henningsen@dese.mo.gov). Please share this information with appropriate members of your staff. Our assessment staff will communicate with your testing coordinators.

Thanks for all you do- Margie

Margie Vandeven, Ph.D. | Commissioner of Education | [dese.mo.gov](http://dese.mo.gov) | 573.751.4446