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To: [DESE,Executive Leadership Team](#); [Muenks, Michael](#)
Subject: test scores
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Attachments: [form comparison.xlsx](#)

All:

As we had discussed, Jeff Klein came in on Thursday to review the procedures of test review and statewide results to see if he could add any clarity to the reason for decline in scores this year.

I am very pleased to report that he said he was walking away feeling confident that the Department had gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the technical aspects of the tests and scoring were done correctly. He could not find anything that seemed out of sorts.

However, he did leave more convinced than ever that what we are seeing is a "form effect". What he has provided in this excel sheet and I have copied below is all public information that he had pulled from his statewide totals report.

The first is a report on the Median Terra Nova scores. He highlighted in green any time the state went up 5 or points and red any time the state went down 5 or more points. (I add the gray dots/fill to show the same comparison from form C to E). These are the nationally normed data points that we REPORT only... not used for accountability.

The second report does the same thing with proficiency rates using a 3% increase/decrease. It is not as extreme as the Terra Nova report – where this year seem to be the anomaly.

The interesting point they make is that all of these shifts occur the year of a form change. (which we had indicated is a very common occurrence). The not so pleasant thought – is that he felt "Form E" (the form we have been using the past 4 years) was the one that seemed out of sync. I would like Michael and Sharon to run this by their TAC who are meeting next week for their reaction.

According to Jeff – their main concern in wanting to get some answers is that they are hearing of some who talk about making significant curricular or personnel decisions based on declines in data... and he does NOT want this to become an unwarranted attack on the new standards.

We have consistently reminded that these decisions need multiple years and multiple indicators. We need to continue to make that statement over and over again.

We will get back with after the TAC meeting with an update.

Thanks!

Average of

MEDIAN_TERRANOVA		Column Labels									
Row Labels		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Eng. Language Arts	3	60	61	58	58	63	63	64	65	58	
	4	63	64	60	60	69	70	70	70	60	
	5	66	67	62	62	63	64	63	63	63	
	6	60	61	63	63	62	62	62	63	64	
	7	58	59	67	68	67	69	69	69	69	
	8	63	63	60	64	67	68	68	68	65	
	Mathematics	3	65	66	60	61	67	69	69	69	63
		4	65	65	60	60	71	73	74	75	62
5		64	65	54	55	63	64	65	65	57	
6		60	63	62	62	59	60	61	62	64	
7		54	55	58	59	63	64	67	65	59	
8		61	61	64	65	66	64	65	56	59	
Science		5			64	64	72	73	73	73	65
		8			61	63	64	65	66	66	67
				C	D		E		D		

Average of

TOP2LEVELS		Column Labels								
Row Labels		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Eng. Language Arts	3	43.3	43.6	40.9	41.0	43.9	44.5	46.0	48.5	42.3
	4	44.7	46.0	45.6	47.0	51.7	52.7	52.8	53.5	46.2
	5	45.9	48.6	48.6	49.4	51.8	52.1	52.6	53.0	50.6

Mathematics	6	43.0	44.4	47.6	48.1	50.2	51.1	50.9	51.6	48.1
	7	43.9	45.6	49.3	51.1	52.4	54.4	55.8	55.4	56.0
	8	42.5	42.5	48.4	50.2	52.5	53.1	53.9	54.5	51.0
Science	3	44.0	45.7	44.3	45.0	47.8	50.2	52.5	51.4	50.8
	4	44.1	45.3	44.7	44.9	49.1	51.2	51.2	50.7	42.9
	5	44.0	47.3	46.2	47.8	52.4	53.4	55.0	54.5	52.8
	6	44.6	48.6	51.1	50.7	56.0	57.5	56.3	56.9	56.2
	7	43.8	45.8	49.8	52.5	55.2	56.4	60.1	58.6	58.1
	8	40.7	41.6	44.3	47.1	52.0	51.4	52.7	41.7	43.5
	5			44.7	45.2	49.2	50.9	51.6	52.0	48.0
	8			43.3	45.2	48.4	50.5	49.9	50.8	52.5
		C	D		E				D	