



T-SNAP TELECONFERENCE AGENDA
Sept, 11, 2008
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND PRELIMINARIES – Sandra Poth

TELECONFERENCE MODERATOR – Laura Witte, 2008 T-SNAP President

T-SNAP MATTERS

- ✓ **Report on New Coordinator Academy** – CATS group organized and presented – Mark reported that they revised the agenda's. They tried to slow down. 50 people joined TSNAP. Please complete the survey as soon as you get the link.
- ✓ **Not So New Coordinator Academy, Sept. 24, 2008** – RATS group is organizing and presenting.
- ✓ **T-SNAP Best Practices Forum- Sept. 19, 2008** – brand new adventure. Small medium and large district will be sharing.
- ✓ **Assessment Conference Planning Committee Update-** Sandra Poth, Northside ISD – The premium conference for testing practitioners. There was tremendous attending in 2007. Please register now so they can plan accordingly www.tasanet.org She encouraged us to work on getting room arrangements. TSNAP breakfast has been rescheduled to Tuesday morning. She also announced that there will not be a conference luncheon but that a boxed lunch is available for \$24 but you must pre-register.
- ✓ **TSNAP Website Update-** Joe Orr, Northside ISD www.tsnap.org and www.tsnap.com will both direct to the new website. Since August 58,000 hits on this site. All contact information for officers is available on website. The old website will not be available shortly.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION WITH TEA AND PEARSON STAFF

Online Readiness Survey (Gloria) -

The deadline was extended to help those by Hurricane Gustov. The window closed and 97% of the districts completed it. If you did not complete it, because it was legislatively mandated activity, the final report will list the districts/campuses that did not complete it. At this point, they do not have any of the findings. The report is due to the legislature December 1.

Release of State Assessments- (Gloria)

TEA will be presenting the item to the 2nd reading to the state board next week. If they approve it, the next release will be in summer of 2009 (trying to do TAKS and TAKS-M so that both are on the same schedule). As part of the plan, TEA will release selected items from the bank. Field tested items, but will not appear on state assessments. They are not bad item, but for whatever reason will not be used. They will release something in October 2008 if approved. In the future, they will release in the summer.

End of Course-

Gloria

Issue with physics field test. They have received a number of phone call wanting to swap campuses or other problems. The next time they receive phone calls is just before the calls end. Asking us to check and make sure that we do not have any problems. This sample is very small and TEA needs to ensure that there will not be problems (i.e. campus only offer Physics every other year).

Paul

Data files (all subjects) and CSRs for operational tests will be available online. Summary reports only for Algebra I. Only Algebra I will have met standard/commended. Other subjects will just have raw scores. There will be no fees associated with these services. No sure of exact timeline, but it should be very similar to this year.

Precoding for field/operation tests – Yes, just like last year. The dates will not be on the calendar of events. They will send out a broadcast email to make sure everyone has dates.

Enrollment (Paul from Pearson) -

Start next week. They are in the process of putting together the information to send to September 17th and close November 2nd
Update enrollment window January 2nd – January 30th
The January update window does not effect the numbers for the March test, just the April
They will provide us with numbers from last year (actual tested numbers).
Process is exactly the same as it has been in the past.
New campuses that are part of PEIMS will be included, but will have no counts.

Electronic Calendar of Events (Paul from Pearson) -

The dates are currently being reviewed and it will be posted sometimes in October. The calendar encompasses all date in the DCCM (receiving/shipping of materials, ect.) plus record changes and a view other dates that are not in the DCCM. Previously there were items that were only on the electronic version that will be included in the DCCM this year.

Interpretive Guides for Reports (Paul from Pearson)

TELPAS portion is being review currently and will be posted on the TEA student assessment website by Sept 19th. There were samples of the TAKS-M reports in the TAKS section and is already posted. The reports will stay the same, but they will now have standards and scale scores. There are no updates for the TAKS-M portion. The guide is only available online. No hard copies.

TEA/Pearson Website Update-

Pearson site (Paul) – consolidated landing page. All things assessment in Texas are found in one place and then a link will take you to the other pages. The site is www.texasassessment.com and includes information such as Dynamic Student Information Retrieval Service. Online study guides, TELPAS/TAKS-Alt training sites, answer documents for training. The K12 testing website is still there, but it will be removed. No new content will be put on the old website.

Assessment of Special Education Students (Cari Weiland)

We know as much as they know – August 29th letter – assessment for students served by special education. They outlined standards setting for TAKS-M, fall reporting, major changes for TAKS-Alt, and accountability information.

2nd monthly sped TETN on September 22nd. Accommodations will be covered, but not for sure that the manual will not be available. They will share all information that they know at the time. Goal – manual as quickly as possible, but it needs to be correct. ARD manual is on the same track. Broadcast email will go out as soon as they are posted. They will not print/ship any manuals until late Nov when DCCM ships.

Any student who took at least 1 subject area of TAKS-M will receive fall reports. Does not include grades 9 and 11 because not AYP grades.

Please do not submit any ARFs until after September 22nd TETN. They are trying to get task force accustomed to new system. So please don't fax yet. They are trying to make it so they will "roll" forward so you don't have to submit every year. There maybe something where you confirm through a check box that the student still needs the ARF. Remember do not send confidential information or identifying information to TEA.

?? fall reports – what will they include? CSR – two paper copies, pdf reports on confidential student label (one) confidential student roster online only, summary reports online only, individual student data file online only.

TAKS-Alt – last TETN gave update. Pat Otto will be at the 9/22 to give any new information. Also 10/23 will cover more TAKS-Alt information. The new training modules will roll out 11/3.

TAKS-M reading administration changes – through the peer review process (1 of 6 states to submit) they received feedback saying that the reading test designed to be read regardless of student need. This was seen as potentially giving advantage to students who may not need it. This year, it will no longer be part of the test, it will be an option. ARDs do not need to be reconvened, but the next time the committee meets address this issue.

?? – can more than one person help with the input of TAKS-Alt. It appears that the request was denied. Cari says they stripped so much out of the system that the task of entering into the computer is very minimal now, that they think the online component is just a list of yes and no questions. They determined that only teacher of record should do this. The question really was asking when there are multiple teachers for a student can each teacher do it themselves instead of having only the teacher of record do the inputting. Cari said she would take that question back and see.

?? – At a high school the TAKS-Accommodated students did not receive the personalized study guides. Cari said that she did not know why, but will find out.

TELPAS Update- (Cathy Kline – Laura not available)

There is a letter that will be posted tomorrow or Monday. That will have TELPAS reporting information. It will give the new cut points as well as the process to set them. Paper results in districts by September 19th. (January 7th letter) Also will be information for AMAO changes. If the letter does not answer all questions, call NCLB coordination division for more details. The TELPAS window has been expanded to 5 weeks for the 2009 administration. The TELPAS Reading will be completely online with only RARE exceptions for paper tests. There will be an online testing letter coming out in a few days. Exceptions: (1) Accommodations needed (2) severe unavoidable technical problems with the online system. The distribution of paper version of test is even that rare – must order as additional materials and will not be submitted automatically. **Districts are going to have to get approval from TEA (call Laura's team) before Pearson will ship.** HR – because no paper documents all student data will be entered through online system. The online testing letter will contain more details about this system. There will be additional information through webex this year. The preliminary TELPAS information booklet will be updated to include information about blue prints and ELKS. Web document online only.

?? is there would be away to make the HR process more efficient. Sandra asked about certified raters who make a change from one campus to another or comes new into the district. It is her understanding that the teacher has to change their own profile in the system. Will it be possible for the district do it instead? Cathy said she understood the concern, but could not address because she does not know the system. She will pass them to Laura and have her respond. Laura will get the answers and post to TSNAP.org

?? when will we get results regarding the TELPAS audit from 2008. Cathy will have to ask Laura and get back with us.

Manuals – (Cathy)

3 hole punched and loose to go in a binder just like last year. LAT accommodations will be moved to accommodations manual. TELPAS accommodation information will also be in the accommodations manual. The TELPAS section will be more complete so there will not be the need to refer to another manual or guide. It is one stop TELPAS shopping. There will still be an online user guides. The rater manual and reading test administration manual will be combined into one manual called TELPAS Rater and Administrator manual. This is the only manual that they need. Web only manual if you are doing a paper administration. There will be a new document called coordinator manual supplement to give TAKS Exit, EOC online/paper information. Test administrator manuals – change – two components. General test administrator manual (use for general training and it will arrive early in January) then there will be a set of test administrator directions that will contain grade specific calendar and administrator scripts. Only one set of directions will be provided. You must keep them for entire year. Attempt to be green! There will be separate manuals for retest and LAT. This change was a result of the district advisory committee.

?? Online testing in October – do they use the July manuals that are currently posted? Cathy will have to check and get back. She believes that there are separate manuals.

?? Will a letter come out explaining new manual change? Cathy said that they will probably do a broadcast email. There is also a section in the DCCM about the changes.

Security - Cathy Kline

Oaths – there will be multiple copies of the oaths to handle multiple administrations (March/April or SSI). They are looking into having separate oaths – one for the general and one for the specific. A final decision has not been made, but they are looking and thinking this way.

Honor statement is being extended to include TAKS-M grades 9-11. There will not be a statement for 8th graders this year.

There is a section that is being added to the test administrator oath (test administrator specific) for those giving oral administrations. It is just a reminder to them to the special situation they are in and not to copy or divulge any of the information they see.

They are working on trying to develop a “best practices” model for security. It was recommendation #12 on 14 point plan. They are thinking that it will be included as an appendix in the DCCM. They are putting it out there so districts could adopt as local policy.

?? 14 point plan to analyze the data for anomalies in the data. Cathy thinks it is 2007 data, but will verify. Marianna’s group is working on that point.

OTHER TOPICS IF TIME PERMITS

NAEP: hearing that some might be computer based? How do we know if that is true. As soon as Kim Ackerman is available she will put an email together and send to DTC that were picked.

Newsletter? Cathy remarked that no one has asked for it? They are not planning on putting one out unless they hear from the field that people want it. They have found that broadcast emails are taking the place of the newsletters. Sandra suggested that it is still valuable for new people. Cathy will take it forward.

?? Incident reports from 2008 testing? The numbers went up, but they attribute it not to an increase in the number of incidents, but in the vigilance in reporting. They feel there are lots of things reported that do not constitute incidents. 3800 reported this year, which is up from about 3000 in 2007.

?? When can we expect to have the “all clear” letters from 2008. They are concentrating on the most severe first and then go down. Trying to have it all cleared out by early November. She encouraged us to try to report and provide all documentation within 10 days or as soon as possible.

?? Missing materials – if you have not heard then you should be good. She will check for sure.