

LOCAL ASSESSMENT SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES

PURPOSE

Chapter 127 requires that each school district develop a local assessment system to measure student learning of Maine's Learning Results. As stated in the Maine Department of Education LAS Guide, "Replacement is the means by which the assessment system provides the opportunity for a student with low performance to demonstrate an acceptable level of proficiency for certification in a content area through another assessment.

The Messalonskee School District has developed the following "Replacement Guidelines", consistent with Department of Education requirements.

PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

1. Replacement assessments will address the same content as close to the original assessment as possible, and within the same cluster.
2. Replacement assessments will ensure there are a variety of types of assessments and LAS distribution requirements are met.
3. Replacement assessments may be offered using a variety of methods: classroom, extended day, and summer school.
4. Replacement assessments must meet all the same standards for validity and reliability as all other certification assessments in the LAS.
5. All students are required to take the original LAS assessment before taking a replacement assessment for that content.
6. K-4 students must take a replacement for any reading, writing, and math assessment that has a score of "1".
7. Students may not request a replacement assessment for any assessment with a score of "2" unless the student is in jeopardy of "not" meeting standards for a cluster by the end of the grade span.
8. No replacement assessments are allowed for assessments that have scores of "3" or "4".
9. Some original projects (e.g. Curriculum Research Project) may be repeated as a replacement.
10. The K-4 grade span has no limit on the number of replacement assessments. Grades 5-8 and 9-12 grade spans have a maximum of 2 replacement assessments within a content area cluster, unless determined otherwise by a student's "Personal Learning Plan".

11. Students who are still “not on track” for meeting standards after taking the first replacement assessments for a content area will have a “Personal Learning Plan” that addresses the student’s needs, remediation, and will include a time line. Parents will be notified by mail and asked to meet with the teacher(s) to jointly develop the “Personal Learning Plan”.
12. Students must receive **additional** instruction prior to taking any replacement assessment. (Whenever possible, the additional instruction for the *first* replacement assessment should take place in the student’s current classroom.)

There is a system for additional instruction and replacement that includes a variety of methods: during school hours, extended day, and summer school. Parents will be notified by mail if their child needs additional instruction beyond the regular classroom program. Parents are obligated to ensure the student will participate in the additional instruction or sign a waiver that they are declining the opportunity for their child to receive additional help.
13. Students in the 9-12 grade span are required to participate in one of the instruction opportunities outside of the regular classroom, listed in #12, if a course is completed and the student is no longer in the original teacher’s classroom. High school students also have the option of retaking the course.
14. The superintendent of schools must certify that students have met the standards for Maine’s Learning Results as demonstrated by performance in the Local Assessment System in order to receive a Messalonskee diploma. Students who do not participate in recommended additional instruction or refuse to take replacement assessments jeopardize their ability to earn a diploma.

REPORTING

1. Parents and students will be notified of performance on individual assessments no later than the next grading cycle (progress reports or report cards) for the school.
2. All schools will notify parents if a student is “not on track” for meeting standards for their grade span at the end of the 2nd trimester or 1st and 3rd quarter of the year.
3. All parents will be notified annually, in writing, of student progress toward meeting the standards for Maine’s Learning Results, as measured by the Local Assessment System.

EVALUATION

1. Replacement guidelines will be reviewed at the end of each year for fairness, sufficiency of resources, and compliance with MDOE requirements.

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