



Office of Data and Accountability

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SY 2016 - 2017 BPS Formative Assessment Update

Boston Public Schools is pleased to announce its new formative assessment partnership with Measured Progress and Illuminate Education. Over the last several months, the BPS Office of Data and Accountability and Office of Academics and Professional Learning have been working diligently with the BPS community to determine the needs of the district and finalize new assessment resources.

In order to provide educators and students with access to the highest-quality test items, the district has contracted with [Measured Progress](#) to provide rigorous, standards-aligned content. Users will access all testing and reporting, including Measured Progress items, via the [Illuminate](#) platform. The new joint partnership will deliver three interim assessments in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics in grades 3-12, as well as the ability to create custom assessments.

Measured Progress has been developing high-quality items and assessments for over 30 years, including the development and design of Massachusetts' MCAS program, PARCC, and Smarter Balanced assessments. With a "quality-over-quantity" approach, the Measured Progress content is developed by the same experts behind the Next Generation MCAS and PARCC assessments. Schools will have access to more than 10,000 ELA and Mathematics items for students in grades 3-12, including performance assessment tasks and technology-enhanced items.

Along with the content bank, schools will have the option of administering three interim assessments in ELA and Math. Interims will be administered online in consideration that the Next Generation MCAS is designed to be taken on a computer and the expectation that MCAS be fully administered statewide via computer-based testing in 2019. Each interim will be aligned to BPS scope and sequence documents. Teachers may use the item bank to create custom assessments for a broad range of skills or for a particular cluster or standard.

All content will be accessible through the easy-to-use online Illuminate Education platform. This includes the interim assessments, formative content bank, assessment creation tools, automatic and custom data reports, and parent and student portals. Illuminate works with over 1,500 districts and maintains a 99% client retention rate. Illuminate also offers the option for custom reporting for other assessment data, including the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System (BAS), PALS, EVT, and others. Grading for machine-scored items may be done through a scanner or using a computer webcam, with data reports generating instantly. Another customizable feature of the platform is the ability to model Next Generation MCAS accessibility features.

As stated in the [16/17 Preliminary Assessment Calendar](#), Superintendent Chang and his Senior Leadership have decided to put a pause on mandating a single set of interim assessments that all or specific groups of schools will administer. Instead, each school will need to identify what formative assessments they believe

Boston Public Schools
Tommy Chang, Superintendent

Boston School Committee
Michael D. O'Neill, Chair

City of Boston
Martin J. Walsh, Mayor



will best support their instructional goals in SY 2016-17. Schools will be required to administer and use common formative assessments at each grade level (in English Language Arts and Mathematics) in their schools for students in grades 3–12. Each school’s assessment plan should enable staff to understand and analyze student learning, provide feedback to students, and adjust instruction accordingly. Details on professional development for implementing the new formative assessment system will be communicated shortly in preparation for the first interim assessment window.



Preliminary

2016-2017 BPS Assessment Calendar FOR GRADES K-2



SEPTEMBER 2016						
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DECEMBER 2016						
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September / October 2016	
Sept 19 - Oct 21	DIBELS (K-2)
Sept 19 - Oct 21	PALS (K1)
Sept 19 - Oct 21	LAP-D (K0-K2 students new to BPS)

November 2016	
Oct 31 - Nov 18	EVT (K0-K2)

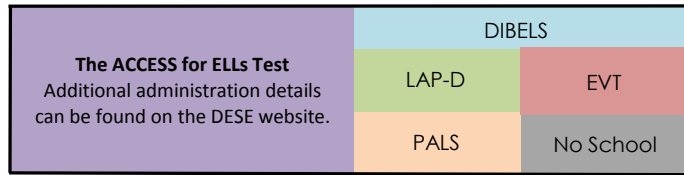
January 2017	
Jan 5 - Feb 8	ACCESS for ELLs (K-12)

February / March 2017	
Jan 23 - March 3	DIBELS (K-2)

May / June 2017	
May 8 - June 9	DIBELS (K-2)
May 8 - June 9	PALS (K1)
May 8 - June 9	EVT (K0-K2)

More information on Early Childhood assessments can be found here:
<http://bpsearlychildhood.weebly.com/progress--assessment.html>

★ = First/Last Day of School (or day 180) ★ = First day for Kindergarten



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Preliminary

2016-2017 BPS Assessment Calendar FOR GRADES 3-8



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FEBRUARY 2017						
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October / November 2016			
Oct 3 - Oct 12	TerraNova (AWC)	Gr 3-5	ELA, Math
Oct 31 - Nov 10	Interim Assessments*	Gr 3-8	ELA, Math, History (6-8 only)
December 2016			
Dec 5 - Dec 22	Interim Assessments*	Gr 3-8	ELA, Math, History (6-8 only)
January / February 2017			
Jan 5 - Feb 8	ACCESS for ELLs	K-12	
Feb 27 - Mar 17	Interim Assessments*	Gr 3-8	ELA, Math, History (6-8 only)
March 2017			
Mar 31	MCAS-ALT	Gr 3-8	Deadline for submission
April / May 2017			
Apr 3 - May 3	MCAS	Gr 3-8	ELA
Apr 4 - May 26	MCAS	Gr 3-8	Math
Apr 5 - May 26	MCAS	Gr 5, 8	Science

= First/Last Day of School (or day 180)

For additional information on the ACCESS for ELLs test, check the DESE website.	No School	MCAS
* Interim assessments are likely to be optional in terms of the dates of administration and assessment tools used in SY 2016-17.		MCAS Alt Advanced Work Class (AWC)

* Dates for Paced Interimes are tentative and are subject to change

Preliminary

2016-2017 BPS Assessment Calendar FOR GRADES 9-12



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October / November 2016		
Oct 19	PSAT/NMSQT	Gr 10-11
Oct 31 - Nov 10	Interim Assessments*	Gr 9-11* ELA, Math, History
Nov 2 - 4	MCAS Retest	Gr 11-12 ELA
Nov 9 - 10	MCAS Retest	Gr 11-12 Math

December 2016		
Dec 5 - Dec 22	Interim Assessments*	Gr 9-11* ELA, Math, History

January / February 2017		
Jan 5 - Feb 8	ACCESS for ELLs	K-12
Feb 6 - 7	MCAS (Feb 9 Makeup)	High School Biology
Feb 27 - Mar 17	Interim Assessments*	Gr 9-11* ELA, Math, History

March 2017		
Mar 1 - Mar 7	MCAS Retest (March 8 Makeup)	Gr 11-12 ELA and Math
Mar 21	MCAS (March 30 Makeup)	Gr 10 ELA Composition
Mar 22 - 23	MCAS (Apr 3 Makeup)	Gr 10 ELA Reading Comprehension
Mar 31	MCAS-ALT	Gr 9-12 Deadline for submission

May 2017		
May 16 - 17	MCAS (May 23 Makeup)	Gr 10 Math

June 2017		
June 5 - 6	MCAS (June 8 Makeup)	HS Science

= First/Last Day of School (or day 180)

For additional information on the ACCESS for ELLs test, check the DESE website.	No School	MCAS
* Interim assessments are likely to be optional in terms of the dates of administration and assessment tools used in SY 2016-17.		MCAS Alt
		PSAT

* Dates and assessment grades for Paced Interimes are tentative and are subject to change

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MARCH 2017						
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