California Department of Education

Executive Office

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# MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** October 15, 2018

**TO:** MEMBERS, State Board of Education

**FROM:** TOM TORLAKSON, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

**SUBJECT:** California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress: Update on the Student Score Report for 2018–19 and Beyond.

## Summary of Key Issues

The California Department of Education (CDE), with input from stakeholders, has implemented an electronic reporting process for the delivery of California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) summative assessment Student Score Reports (SSRs). Technical edits to the SSRs have been completed to take advantage of the electronic delivery format and to increase accessibility of the report. This Memorandum provides an update on technical edits to the SSR for the 2018–19 school year.

## Summative Student Score Report

In mid-May, preliminary student scores and aggregate reports became available electronically through the secure Online Reporting System for local educational agencies (LEAs). Once an LEA’s administration reached 90 percent of its students’ tests having been scored, SSRs were generated, printed, and shipped to the LEA. The CDE also piloted an electronic process for the delivery of SSRs. The transition to the electronic delivery of SSRs will take place in the following phases:

* Phase 1—Pilot (2017–18)
* Phase 2—Initial Implementation (2018–19)
* Phase 3—Full Implementation (2019–20)

As part of the Phase 2 build-out, the CDE engaged in a process with stakeholders to facilitate the change in the design of the SSRs from paper to a user-friendly electronic format.

### **Stakeholder Input**

The CDE engaged a variety of stakeholders in June and July 2018 to obtain feedback on the look and “feel” of the SSRs. Three chat-based focus groups were conducted online with parents who have at least one child attending a California public school in grades three through eight or grade eleven. The meetings were held as follows:

* June 15, with nine parents from the Los Angeles area
* June 25, with seven parents from the Fresno area
* July 10, with eight parents from the Sacramento area

The prototype SSRs contained the same information as the current paper SSRs but presented the information in different ways to make for clearer visual descriptions. Participants in the focus groups responded to the prototype SSRs by way of an independent online survey and group conversations to identify specific details about preferences and areas in need of enhancement. They focused on the designs in order for the CDE to obtain collective feedback on SSRs that provide information for overall score, score history, and claims.

On July 19, 2018, the CDE presented the parent feedback on the SSRs to the CAASPP Stakeholder Group. The group is represented by members from the Association of California School Administrators, Advisory Commission on Special Education, California Parent Teacher Association, California Association of Bilingual Educators, Californians Together, California County Superintendents Educational Services Association, California Charter Schools Association, California Federation of Teachers, California School Boards Association, California Science Teachers Association, California Teachers Association, California Small School District Association, and a special education local plan area. The CAASPP Stakeholder Group discussed the technical edits and provided feedback.

### **Changes to the Student Score Reports Based on Input**

Stakeholders provided feedback on a number of prototype SSRs that were presented. Feedback included the following:

* Inclusion of color schemes are easier on the eye.
* Vertical representation of the graphics allows for quick and easy understanding of results.
* Larger graphics that compare state, school, and student averages are easy to read and understand.
* Score claim concepts that have a concise layout, a good use of vectors to emphasize labels, and easy to decipher classifications should be provided.
* Compared to the current SSR, stakeholders thought the majority of the prototypes added color and dimension and made the SSR “feel” more modern.
* Parents did not realize that there were links to test questions and additional resources on the current paper SSR.

### **Resulting Design of the Summative Student Score Report**

The resulting design of the summative SSRs has been applied to all of the CAASPP System assessments which includes the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics; the California Alternate Assessments (CAA) for ELA and mathematics; the California Science Test; the California Spanish Assessment; and will be applied to the operational CAA for Science.

One important change achieved with the electronic SSR format (see Attachment 1 as an example), which was not possible with the paper version of the SSR, is making the SSR accessible under the federal Section 508 compliance mandates. Increased access to the SSR is also expanded to persons with visual impairments through the application of text to speech. Translated and English versions of the SSRs will also be provided in the electronic downloadable format in the Test Operations Management System. Options for an SSR reproduced in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Filipino will be available in 2018–19. Two additional languages of translated SSRs will be available in the 2019-20 administration. These languages represent the six most frequent languages spoken by California students, other than English. Another important gain with the design of the electronic SSR format is the inclusion of the mailing address on all reports, something that was not possible without a special LEA request on the paper version.

Information on the overall score and progress for the assessment content area are now dominant on the first page, with colors that attract the reader’s attention. The second and third pages provide student scores comparative to the school and state averages by content area. Finally, the fourth page displays three years of historical scores by content area. The information is easy to read and understand, presented in a larger, contemporary format and provides easy access to additional information through active Uniform Resource Locator links.

## Attachment(s)

* Attachment 1: (Sample Student Score Report) Madison Martinez CAASPP Score Report, 2018–19 Grade 5 (4 Pages)