

# Testing and Accountability – Update and Issues

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# ABCs/AYP Reporting for 2005-06

- High School ABCs – October 5 (at the latest)
- Elementary/Middle School ABCs/AYP – November 15 (at the latest)



# Data Collection Systems

Utilized authoritative data sources:

- NC WISE and SIMS for race/ethnicity, students with disabilities and course enrollment
- Child Nutrition for free/reduced price lunch eligibility
- Results from language proficiency testing for students with limited English proficiency (LEP) verified by SIMS/NCWISE



# Challenges for Assessment System

- Embedding field test questions into operational forms of the tests – continual need for item reviews
- Added printing expenses – increased numbers of forms on tests
- Alternate assessments
- USED peer review process – more demands on staff time



# Field Testing & Special Studies

- Certain studies result of Peer Review process
- Increases demands on students and schools
- Timelines usually tight



# New Achievement Levels for Mathematics (Grades 3-8)

- New test edition warrants new achievement levels
- Harder curriculum – higher standards
- Prospect of having “AYP status scores” – equated scores to earlier edition for AYP reporting
- Will know outcome of analyses in mid-October



# Pros and Cons for More Online State Assessments

## Background:

- 21<sup>st</sup> century skills/assessments
- Online computer skills test
- Field testing online physics test with simulations this year
- Move to “straight” online end-of-course (EOCs) assessments for others?
- Survey will be conducted

# Pros for Online Assessments

- Decreased turn around time for reporting
- Less paper to print, ship and handle
- Eventually will allow more use of simulations and other creative ways to assess



# Cons for Online Assessments

- Bandwidth of schools
- Capacity of schools to schedule exams during last one-two weeks of course (unless policy changes made)
- Security risks
- Comparability studies required by  
**USED**



# Formative Assessments

- Don't wait until end of year for summative assessments
- Use information for informing instruction
- Currently reviewing options
- Costs



# Competency Testing Requirements & New High School Exit Standards

- High School Exit Standards next step in raising competency standard
- Add competency statute language changes to SBE policy agenda for legislature

