

August 21, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: System Test Coordinators

FROM: Jeff Barker, Ph.D.
Director, Assessment Administration Division

SUBJECT: End-Of-Course Tests (EOCT) Mathematics II Field Test Event

Effective 2008-2009, students enrolled in Mathematics I: Algebra/Geometry/Statistics and Mathematics II: Geometry/Algebra II/Statistics will be required to take End-of-Course Tests (EOCT) as appropriate. Prior to the operational administration of new tests, it is important new test items that may appear on future EOCT are reviewed and field tested.

Traditionally, field test items are embedded within operational test forms. This was the method utilized when Mathematics I items were field tested during the spring 2008 EOCT administration. Mathematics II field test items were not embedded in the spring 2008 administration due to an inadequate sample population; students had not received exposure to the Mathematics II curriculum. Therefore, in preparation for the spring 2009 administration of the Mathematics II EOCT, the Georgia Department of Education has scheduled an independent field test event to be administered December 1-12, 2008.

All students enrolled in Mathematics II, Accelerated Mathematics II, and Algebra II are expected to participate in this field test event if they receive instruction on a block schedule. Students taught on a block schedule will receive one full credit in Algebra II, Mathematics II, or Accelerated Mathematics II at the end of the first semester. Students taught using the traditional schedule where they will receive 1/2 credit at the end of first semester and 1/2 credit at the end of second semester, or one full credit at the end of the school year, are not eligible for participation in the Mathematics II Field Test. In other words, students must complete the course work for Mathematics II, Accelerated Mathematics II, and Algebra II by the end of the first semester to participate in the field test. This is necessary to ensure we collect sufficient data to aid in the development process of the Mathematics II operational assessment.

The Mathematics II EOCT Field Test will be administered in the same manner as the operational EOCT. The test is divided into two sections. The Field Test consists of 48 items (24 in each section). Systems will have the option of administering the Field Test via paper/pencil or electronically. These are secure documents and should be handled using the same level of test security that is used with operational documents.

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Please be reminded that one of the primary purposes of field testing is to test or “try out” items that will provide data important in determining the appropriateness of items for inclusion on operational test forms. In an effort to maintain the integrity of the field testing process, results from this field test will not be available.

All systems are required to submit the online registration form. This form has two purposes: (1) to determine which systems are eligible for participation; and (2) to submit enrollment information for eligible systems. Please submit registration forms no later than August 28, 2008. To submit the form, go to the on-line registration site www.cvent.com. Click on “RSVP to an event” in the top right hand corner and enter the event code: 4W NX2S7WYEQ. Once the registration form is completed, participating systems will be notified.

Thank you for your help with this important part of the Georgia testing program.

If you have questions about CVENT, please contact Robin Jindrich-Cecil at robin.jindrich-cecil@pearson.com or (800) 627-7990, ext. 6973.

If you have questions about EOCT, please contact Dr. Paula Rufus at prufus@doe.k12.ga.us or (404) 656-5975.

cc: Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools
Martha Reichrath, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent for Standards, Instruction, and Assessment
Chris Domaleski, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent of Assessment and Accountability
GNETS Testing Directors
RESA Directors