

April 24, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: System Test Coordinators
System Curriculum Directors

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

SUBJECT: Nominations for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
to Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) Alignment Study

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) is seeking recommendations for highly qualified educators and curriculum specialists to participate in the upcoming NAEP to GPS Alignment Study. The alignment training will occur on June 3, 2008 from 9:00 am-4:00 pm in the Atlanta area. Once the training location is finalized, participants will be notified with the information.

This alignment study will review released NAEP items and determine their alignment to the GPS. This process is essential to establish the validity of using NAEP items in the Online Assessment System as additional preparation for Georgia state assessments. We need your best educators and curriculum specialists to participate.

The alignment study process will include activity groups based on grade level and subject. Each of the groups will consist of two to three members. The alignment training will familiarize the participants with their assigned subject NAEP framework and reacquaint them with the GPS. Alignment data will be entered into a NAEP Item Planner spreadsheet that will be created prior to the training. A spreadsheet will be given to each group member and will include the NAEP Item ID which identifies the item by subject and assessed grade level, the passage ID for Reading items and the correct answer. Group members will use the spreadsheet, the GPS, Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK) taxonomy and the NAEP framework to enter, for each item, the standard and element to which the item is aligned and an indication for items which do not align. A practice session using the Item Planner spreadsheet will be included during the training. Group members will be given 2-3 eight hour days (depending on the subject and grade level) during a thirty-day window to complete the remainder of the alignment tasks. Group members will be conducting the alignment review through a tele-work platform.

Please use the online nomination form to submit the names of qualified curriculum specialists and educators in Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Systems may submit up to four nominations per content area. Please consider curriculum specialists and educators from your system who:

- 1) represent the ethnic and regional diversity of your system
- 2) demonstrate depth of knowledge in their content area
- 3) demonstrate instructional expertise
- 4) participate in ongoing professional learning
- 5) provide leadership among their colleagues
- 6) receive recognition for their contributions to teaching and learning
- 7) have completed GPS training
- 8) have knowledge of NAEP

To ensure a balanced, representative committee, not all nominees will be selected. Those nominees not selected for this project will be included in a pool from which the Assessment Administration Division staff may select individuals for participation in future NAEP activities.

Complete and submit one form for each person recommended. Nominations should be made at the following website, <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB227LY4ZYZM4>, no later than May 2, 2008. Selected participants will be notified by May 9, 2008. Nominees not selected to participate will also be notified.

Reimbursements for mileage at the rate of \$.505 per mile, one-night accommodation, breakfast, and lunch will be provided for qualifying participants for the one day training. For those qualifying participants who require overnight accommodations, the dinner reimbursement cost is capped at \$15.00. A stipend of \$125.00 will be paid for the day of training. For the two day alignment process, a stipend of \$250.00 will be paid and a stipend of \$375.00 for the three day alignment process.

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

If you have any questions, please contact Bobbie Bable at bbable@doe.k12.ga.us or (404) 657-6168.

cc: System Superintendents
Curriculum Directors
RESA Directors
Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools
Martha Reichrath, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent for Standards, Instruction and Assessment
Christopher Domaleski, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability