



## ASSESSMENT BUREAU NEWSLETTER

For questions on newsletter content, please email: [ped.assessment@state.nm.us](mailto:ped.assessment@state.nm.us).  
Past newsletters are archived on the [DTC page of the PED website](#).

January 7, 2021

### Welcome Beth Russom

The Assessment Team is pleased to welcome Beth Russom. Formerly, Beth was the District Test Coordinator (DTC) for Chama Valley Schools. With a combined 28 years of experience leading education, including teaching, instructional coaching, and coordination of Title III, bilingual education, fine arts, and other special programs. She will assist with managing the bureau programs and oversee Dynamic Learning Maps, ACCESS, MSSA, and other Cognia related assessments. She can be reached at [Elizabeth.Russom@state.nm.us](mailto:Elizabeth.Russom@state.nm.us).

### SAT Accommodations Request Deadline

The deadline to submit accommodation requests in [SSD Online](#) for Spring SAT testing is January 27th, 2021. While testing this Spring is still "on hold", accommodation requests should still be made before the deadline to ensure that testing can proceed smoothly in the event that testing is required. Should you need help or have questions, remember to view our [demo](#) and look over our [SSD Online overview](#). Students whose accommodations were put in the system last year in preparation for the PSAT 10 administration should already be in the system.



## PED's Assessment for Learning Conference

As a reminder, all DTCs should plan to attend the first annual assessment conference that includes presentations from district and national assessment experts. The Assessment for Learning Virtual Conference [full schedule is now available](#) and you may review the sessions and speakers. All sessions are free and open to NM Educators. The live presentations will be held on **January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021** through Zoom and the meeting links will be made available on the schedule page for each day of the conference. As a DTC you have been pre-enrolled in the conference but need to finish registration:

- **What Should I Expect?**  
*You should have received an email from Instructure Canvas with an invitation to join the Assessment for Learning Virtual Conference. Please click on "Get Started."*
- **What Should I do After Receiving the Email?**  
*If you already have a Canvas User account, you will be sent to the login page, and then you can navigate to the conference landing page.  
If you are a new Canvas user, then you must create an account to access the conference page; follow the steps as prompted to create a Canvas account.*
- **What if I did not receive an email from Instructure Canvas?**  
*Check your SPAM/junk mail first and if no email has been received, then please self-register by using the [Canvas Catalogue page](#)*

After registering, please [explore the Pre-Conference page and complete the check in](#). You can also review this [Canvas Navigation Guide](#) to get started. We look forward to connecting with you and learning together!

### Spring 2021 NAEP Administration

In November, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Commissioner, with the support of the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB), decided to postpone the NAEP 2021 assessments until 2022. No New Mexico schools will be identified for NAEP testing this spring. For more information please read the [2021 NAEP Update Letter](#) posted on the NAEP assessment page.



### NM-MSSA Supporting New Mexico Students as Writers: Resources for Teachers

PED has worked with Cognia to develop a [MSSA writing resource packet](#). This packet is designed to provide teachers a clear understanding of what the grades NM-MSSA writing assessment (grades 3-8) will look like and what students will be expected to do.