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SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

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GOVERNOR

February 5, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, District Test Coordinators

FROM: Arsenio Romero, Ph.D., Secretary of Education ^{AR}

RE: Data Validation Activities for SY 2024 ESSA Accountability Reporting Cycle

This memorandum provides updates to the New Mexico Public Education Department's (PED) current cycle *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) Accountability reporting activities and provides information on new resources for the upcoming SY 2023–24 ESSA accountability cycle.

Revised Release Date for SY 2022–23 LEA Report Cards

The PED continues to rectify LEA appeals, and the release date for the SY 2022–23 LEA report cards on NM Vistas is delayed. The PED will send an announcement to school leaders once the data is finalized and it will be publicly posted.

Public Accountability Schedule of Events for the Upcoming Cycle

A public schedule of the upcoming accountability cycle has been developed to communicate necessary LEA validation periods to ensure LEA data accuracy for high-stakes reporting. It is posted [here](#) and will continue to be refined with specified dates. School leaders, District Test Coordinators, and data managers are encouraged to utilize this resource.

Upcoming Validations Noted in the Schedule

- **Spring 2024 Post-Assessment Data Validation**
To avoid delays in accountability reporting, it is important that LEAs tend to the vendor validation deadlines and ensure rectification of missing students' test scores and testing irregularities.
- **2023 Graduation Cohort Data Validation: Shared Accountability Units (SAU)**
The purpose of this validation effort is to ensure that graduating seniors are cohorted properly (i.e., in the 4-, 5-, or 6-year cohort). Cohort data are used for calculating high-stakes accountability reports (e.g., graduation rates, graduation growth). In following the schedule, the PED will be sending communication to LEAs regarding the validation steps for phases 1 and 2. The public schedule includes office hours to support new district personnel.

LEA Support and Communications

The public schedule will include office hours hosted by the PED to assist LEAs with the upcoming and ongoing validation activities. To ensure timely communication, the PED invites school leaders to:

1. Enroll staff in the distribution of the PED [Assessment & Accountability Newsletter](#).
2. Add, change, or remove contact information, including other personnel to be added to accountability-specific communications, by emailing rahila.naseer@ped.nm.gov.

Fall Assessment & Accountability Conference

The PED's Assessment and Accountability Conference is scheduled for September 9–10, 2024 in Albuquerque. This conference is a required District Test Coordinator training, per 6.10.7 NMAC. LEA accountability and curriculum staff members are welcome to attend. The agenda and registration details are in development and will be announced in the Assessment & Accountability Newsletter later this spring. Save-the-date information is [here](#).

For questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Lynn Vásquez, Division Director, Assessment, Research, Evaluation, and Accountability: lynn.vasquez@ped.nm.gov.

Cc: Amanda DeBell, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning, and Innovation
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Elisabeth Nixon Peterson, Director of Priority Schools Bureau