April 1, 2015
Indiana State Board of Education Resolution Regarding Indiana’s 2015-16 Assessment

Whereas, The State Board “shall authorize the development and implementation of the ISTEP program,” Ind. Code § 20-32-5-4(a)(1).

Resolved, That the State Board conditions its authorization of the development and implementation of the 2015-2016 statewide assessment program on the following requirements:

1. The vendor contract shall require a pilot test be implemented in Fall 2015 and any future years in which additional items will be needed, and the pilot design be consistent with the recommendations in the “2015 ISTEP+ Review: Findings and Recommendations on Testing Time,” by Edward Roeber and William Auty (2/25/2015) (“Experts’ Recommendations”), to the extent practicable;

2. In developing the 2015–2016 statewide assessment program, the vendor shall be required to move the longitudinal and historic data from the current testing program to the new testing program, and shall ensure that existing items from the prior Indiana Academic Standards shall be reviewed for alignment and suitability for use on 2015-2016 and future assessments;

3. The vendor contract shall provide for the identification of comprehensive test specifications and assessment blueprint document as soon as possible, but no later than August 1, 2015, which the Department of Education (“Department”) shall then immediately communicate to stakeholders;

4. The vendor contract shall require a valid summative assessment of English/Language Arts (“ELA”), Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies be developed for the applicable grades with the fewest items necessary to preserve accountability;

5. The Department and the vendor shall not develop, pilot, field test, or administer items beyond the minimum items necessary to provide a combined ELA score that is:
   a. Aligned to the current year’s standards;
   b. Sufficient to be accepted under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. 7801 (25) or successor federal legislation; and
   c. Provides valid and reliable accountability data; and

6. The vendor contract shall not provide for the implementation of Grade 9 summative or formative testing, but shall provide for the minimum implementation of test items at Grade 9 for one year for the limited purpose of developing a valid and reliable vertical scale;

7. The vendor contract shall require development of a formative assessment of Grades K-2 covering ELA and Mathematics only;
8. The vendor contract shall not require development of a formative assessment of Grade 10 that includes Social Studies;

9. There shall not be a vendor contract for Grade 11 or Grade 12 testing beyond what is required under HEA 1005 (2013);

10. The vendor contract shall require that the Grade 3 and Grade 4 assessments be shortened in accordance with the Experts’ Recommendations;

11. Students below Grade 9 who have taken and passed Algebra I shall have met their graduation requirement for Mathematics, but nevertheless shall be required to take the grade level assessment for accountability purposes.

ADOPTED April 1, 2015