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Analyzing Performance Series gains based on normative data

Now is the critical time of year when schools begin perhaps the most important part of the assessment process: the year-end data analysis. A thorough and careful data analysis can provide you with the information you need to effectively review the achievement and growth of your students this year, and plan essential changes for the next school year.

One of the biggest questions that can now be answered is: How have your students grown this school year? Your gains reports can be found in the "District Reports" tab after you login to www.EdPerformance.com. This report automatically calculates the total gain or loss in scaled score points from the fall test window to the spring test window. *Only students who completed assessments in both fall and spring test windows will be reflected on this report.*

Below is a method to calculate minimal expected gains for students from fall to spring, which can be utilized by anyone with access to the students' scores. This method employs Scantron's observed average gains from the 2005-2006 national norm study, which is the most recent data Scantron has available.

- Use the Standard Error of Measure (SEM) to establish confidence intervals around the scaled scores.
- Keep in mind that scaled scores are a reliable *estimate* of students' achievement.
- Additionally, it is important to note that these gains are *average* and, if students are well below grade level, they may not be enough to ensure your students are on track *to academically prepare them for college, work and life.*

The Observed Average (Mean) Gains document is attached and can also be found under the documents tab on the EdPerformance website.

To calculate expected gain from fall to spring based on the Observed Average (Mean) Gains charts:

1. Obtain a class average or individual student's fall scaled score along with the correlating National Percentile Ranking
2. Using the Observed Average (Mean) Gains charts, locate the correct grade level and subject for the student or class and determine which quartile the scaled score falls within.
 - a. The first quartile represents students whose score falls between 1-25 on the National Percentile Ranking system. Accordingly:
 - i. Quartile 1 = 1 - 25 NPR Quartile
 - ii. Quartile 2 = 26 - 50 NPR Quartile
 - iii. Quartile 3 = 51 - 75 NPR Quartile
 - iv. Quartile 4 = 76 - 99 NPR Quartile
3. Locate the column titled "Obs. Overall Gain in Spring" which provides the average gain for students whose scores fall within that quartile.

The simplicity of this process allows you to focus on what is most important - using the data to inform instruction and make informed decisions about your students, school, educational program, curriculum, and school improvement plan.

Assessment Coordinator Professional Development in 2011-12

In order to offer learning opportunities to all of the 58 schools authorized by Central Michigan University, the Center will hold **regional, rather than on-site school-level** Professional Development next school year. Please plan to send 2-4 key staff members who need to become, or perhaps already are, assessment experts at your school. This "train the trainer" approach will provide the information your selected staff need to bring back to train the rest of your staff. Any new assessment coordinators are required to attend; all new administrators are highly encouraged to do so.

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The sessions will be scheduled for late August and will be held in Livonia, Southfield and East Lansing. These meetings will provide a detailed look at the EdPerformance website, an explanation of all of the data elements, and in-depth information on the Performance Series assessments themselves. In addition, we will discuss Scantron's implementation of the **Common Core State Standards** dual alignment guide to the Performance Series results, which begins with the fall 2011 test window. I am certain those new to the Performance Series assessments, as well as the veterans, will find attending a session beneficial. Specific times, dates, and RSVP information will be included in the July and August Assessment Newsletters. A corresponding professional development session will be scheduled for new and veteran users of NWEA's MAP assessment.

EdPerformance year-end data rollover

The end-of-year data rollover on the EdPerformance website will take place on August 4, 2011. This process archives this school year's data and prepares your website for the next school year. During this process, students will automatically be removed from their current classes and moved up one grade level. The 3+ Years at Academy enrollment group, and the year the student enrolled at your academy, does not change with the summer rollover.

Please do not begin entering newly enrolled students for the upcoming school year until after August 4th. Additionally, to ensure your Archived Reports capture all of this year's test data, do not transfer students who are no longer enrolled to the Transfer Academy until after the summer rollover.

2011-2012 Assessment Windows and Master Calendar of Reporting Requirement (MCCR) submission dates

The following test windows and deadlines apply to the 2011-2012 school year:

Scantron's Testing agreement due	August 19, 2011
Fall Performance Series & MAP/MPG window	September 6 - September 30, 2011
Fall Assessment Coordinator Verification form due	October 7, 2011
MEAP	October 11 - October 19, 2011
	Make-up: October 13, 14, 17, & 21-28
EPAS Enrollment (grades 8, 9, and 10 only) due	December 9, 2011
Winter Performance Series & MAP/MPG (if applicable)	January 2 - January 20, 2012
Winter Assessment Coordinator Verification form due	January 27, 2012
MME	March 6 - March 8, 2012
	Make-up: March 20 - March 22, 2012
ACT score submission due	April 27, 2012
EPAS	March 5 - March 14, 2012
Spring Performance Series & MAP/MPG window	April 30 - May 25, 2012
Spring Assessment Coordinator Verification form due	June 1, 2012

Please submit the above forms on or before the due dates to the Center via AOIS - Document Submission Tool "DST", per the Master Calendar of Reporting Requirements.



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MEAP and MME Information

In past Assessment Newsletters we shared with you MEAP and MME information we received from the MDE. This information is most useful to you when it comes directly from the MDE. The way you can be certain that the information is as timely and complete as possible is to receive the MDE's newsletter yourself. The best way to receive this information is via the MDE's listserves. To sign up for the MEAP listserve go to this address;

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-22709_28463-245583--,00.html

and for the MME go here;

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-22709_35150-168942--,00.html

There are also specific listserves for MI-Access, MEAP-Access, ELPA as well as other MDE departments. A good page to look for the information most relevant to you is here;

<http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-22709---,00.html>

Summer is just around the corner

As this school year quickly winds to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your hard work this school year. The preparation and planning, administering, and data analysis of assessments requires dedication and a lot of effort. Now in your hands is a great deal of useful data which can be turned into information and used in your efforts to prepare students academically for further success – please use it – and when you find your efforts are successful please share them with the Center. We want to celebrate your success and help other schools learn from what has worked for you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Sherry

Sherry Betcher
Assessment Coordinator
The Center for Charter Schools
Central Michigan University
www.TheCenterForCharters.org
Telephone (586) 215-1402

If you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter please email Sherry Betcher at sbetcher@thecenterforcharters.org.

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