



National Assessment Governing Board Resolution on Priorities for the NAEP Assessment Schedule

Whereas, The Nation's Report Card – also known as the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) – is mandated by Congress to conduct a national assessment and report data on student academic achievement and trends in public and private elementary schools and secondary schools (P.L. 107-279);

Whereas, The National Assessment of Educational Progress was originally authorized with bipartisan leadership and periodically reauthorized with bipartisan support, and the National Assessment Governing Board (Governing Board) is explicitly structured to maintain that commitment to nonpartisanship;

Whereas, the NAEP Authorization Act requires that NAEP be administered in public and private schools in reading and mathematics at least every 2 years in grades 4 and 8 and every 4 years in grade 12 and that the Long-Term Trend assessment be administered in reading and mathematics for ages 9, 13 and 17;

Whereas, the NAEP Authorization Act specifies that beyond the requirements listed above, to the extent time and resources allow and at the direction of the Governing Board, NAEP shall assess and report achievement trends in additional subjects in grades 4, 8 and 12;

Whereas, the Every Student Succeeds Act requires all states that receive Title I funds to participate in the biennial reading and mathematics NAEP assessments in grades 4 and 8;

Whereas, Congress supported the establishment and expansion of the NAEP Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) to provide NAEP results for select large urban districts;

Whereas, NAEP provides national, state, and local policymakers and practitioners with consistent, external, credible, and independent measures of student achievement through which results across education systems can be compared at points in time and over time;

Whereas, the National Assessment Governing Board and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) continuously work to enhance NAEP's form (e.g. the digital platform) and content (e.g. periodic updates of NAEP frameworks and assessments), to reflect contemporary expectations of what students know and can do;

Whereas, it is the National Assessment Governing Board's policy, in consultation with NCES, to establish a comprehensive, publicly announced NAEP Schedule of Assessments spanning at least ten years, which specifies the subjects, grades, ages, assessment years, sampling levels (e.g., national, state, district), and introduction of new and revised frameworks for each assessment;

Therefore, as the National Assessment Governing Board provides periodic updates of the NAEP Schedule of Assessments now and into the future, the Board will uphold all of these aforementioned requirements and make decisions informed by each of the following priorities to ensure NAEP results are impactful and policy-relevant:

- **Utility** – prioritize the administration of NAEP assessments that are valuable and informative to education stakeholders who direct, change, or influence policy and/or practice. NAEP data and reports from these assessments will be accessible and understandable to diverse audiences so that statistically valid and reliable data from national, state, and district samples can be used to advance policy and practice in support of increased student achievement.
- **Frequency** – commit to assess subjects other than reading and math at least every 4 years to provide additional measures of student academic progress at regular intervals; and
- **Efficiency** – develop and implement cost-effective ways to administer NAEP while, to the degree possible, maintaining a breadth of subjects on the schedule; and
- **Credibility** – ensure that NAEP remains bipartisan and nonpartisan, producing trusted data and analyses based on rigorous standards of research and evaluation, and reported in a timely manner.

The application of these priorities to the NAEP Schedule of Assessments requires consideration of fiscal, technical, and operational factors in consultation and coordination with NCES.