



FATA Annual Meeting Minutes
8/29/17
Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Orlando, FL

- Welcome/Introduction of Board
- Year in Review
 - 5 meetings held this year between regional meetings and meeting at FOIL and FAMIS
- We would like to consider changing “Florida Association of **Test Administrators**” to “Florida Association of **Testing and Accountability**”.
- Renaissance Learning sponsored Ron LaFace, Jr., Esq. who spoke on Florida Politics and Elections and Legislative Advocacy. He is a lobbyist with Capitol Consulting. Assessment is a hot button topic in Tallahassee and continues to be discussed but nothing is really changing.
 - Two Branches
 - Executive
 - State Board of Education is controlled by the Governor who is part of the Executive branch
 - Governor seat is going to be up for re-election
 - Legislative
 - 160 members (senate and house), mainly republican at this time
 - Terms are up every two years and there is a maximum of 8 years to hold a seat
 - Things can possibly change every two years
 - Elections
 - Very expensive, lots of money is needed because there are so many media markets
 - Florida law allows you to raise money in almost any form
 - Candidates are very aggressive with raising money
 - Political Funding
 - FEA—contribute to democratic candidates and those candidates lose

- Charter Schools and their management companies contribute to republican candidates and they win
- HB 7069
 - Made up of many different education issues (23-25)
 - Assessment Issues
 - Publish tests by 2021, however this would cost the state a lot more money with the vendor so it most likely won't happen
 - Senator Montford put bill 964 together to address assessment issues, however the bill didn't go anywhere because Montford is a democrat so some of the things in the bill got put in 7069
 - Districts are challenging 7069 but not sure if it they will be successful
 - Legislative Platform for 2018 Session being developed by school districts
 - Paper tests expanding to grades 7-10
 - How do we make change as an association?
 - Build relationships with the aids
 - Research issues
 - Know your legislator
 - Put your issues on a one-pager, short and concise
 - Give pros and cons to each issue
 - Build supporters/coalitions (business groups, parents,
 - Go to delegation members and develop a relationship so they look at you as a resource and can call you for questions that come up
 - Never bluff an answer, if you don't know the answer tell them you'll get back to them
 - Always be ready to modify your position and negotiate
 - Spend time with legislators/aids when session isn't in and they have time to listen to you
 - Begin with focusing on people on the education committee

- Identify who they are and see if anyone has a relationship with them—if not, assign people to start building a relationship
 - To be successful in lobbying be engaged, be credible, know what's going on
 - Look at your district's legislative platform and voice your opinion
 - Instructional Materials Association is relied upon as a valid and reliable source for FADDs, we need to become that for assessment.
- Curriculum Associates sponsored Lloyd Jones, Executive National Director, who spoke on Why Less is More: Reduce Redundant and Unnecessary Assessments
 - Interactive discussion on assessments:
 - What is the purpose?
 - How should they be used?
 - What do you do with the data?
 - How should test security be handled?
- New Board Members
 - Peter Zsiga (St. Lucie)—Treasurer
 - Charlene Sozio (Volusia)—Secretary
 - Steve Amburgey (Clay)—Medium Sized District Director
 - Barrington Maxwell (Orange)—Large Sized District Director
- Paula announced that she made a new website for FATA that is a Weebly: <http://floridaassociationoftestadministrators.weebly.com/>. This will allow her to post more resources on the website.
- Treasurer's Report (Cyndy)
 - \$1,080.00 collected today/some registration fees are still in the mail
 - \$2,000.00 left from last year
 - Paid for room today
 - Bought a vase and flowers for Victoria's retirement
- Open Discussion
 - Paper Test Administration
 - After debrief Vince and Susie were going to begin their work on putting the item types to paper.
 - Concerns:

- Harder to track students that test on paper and move within or across districts
- Logistics is going to be awful
 - Storage
 - Manpower to deliver
 - Collection Process
- Additional cost to districts
- Will item types change/listening portion/how do you put performance items on paper
- Accommodations are easier with CBT
 - Text to Speech on the computer meets the students' needs better than a human reader, not to mention it takes more people to give this accommodation
 - Large Print is available on the computer, now students will have to go back to using large books that are cumbersome for students to handle
 - Computer knows what can and can't be read to students, humans make mistakes, perhaps they could at least identify what can be read with some kind of symbol or icon
- Survey districts to see how close they are to one-to-one since one of the arguments is that testing on paper can be done quicker
- Why can't we give two sessions in one day for EOCs if we can do it during the summer administration
- We should be able to give the writing and reading at the same time, it is too hard to track when we have them in two different windows
- Expense of purchasing calculators, now the calculator is available in the platform
- Scheduling
 - Difficulty of getting seniors tested
 - Shorter window gives less opportunity for makeups
- Paula introduced Susie Lee, Bureau Chief of K-12 Assessment and Jenny Black, Director of Test Administration from DOE
 - FLE IDs for adult testers and private school students
 - Shawna Reid at DOE is working on this

- Students can't just walk in to test anymore
- Concordant Scores
 - Vince will speak about this tomorrow
 - New workshop date will be announced
 - Math is being reconsidered, what was stated in the original webinar still stands regarding PERT
 - They would like to have new concordant scores this school year but a date has not been determined—we suggested that it be implemented next school year
- Out of State Algebra 1 Tests
 - List from Helen Lancashire is no longer being updated or valid
 - You must now look at the state the student is coming from and see what their state test is and if the student passed it or not
 - If an ESE student took and failed the Alg. 1 test from another state can we waive it—Susie is going to look into it with the ESE office
- How will the listening portion of ELA be conducted on paper next year?
 - DOE is still working on it, they will let us know as soon as they can what it is going to look like, it might involve each student having a tablet, however that would cost districts a lot of money
- Can we have an icon or symbol on the paper test that shows what can be read?
 - It would need to be on all paper tests, they won't be able to have "accommodated" tests
- What are the paper test items going to look like?
 - You can look at the accommodated paper practice tests to see the comparison
- Has there been any study to show the comparison of CBT versus paper?
 - No
- Will there be the same amount of extended response on the paper tests?

- There will be no hand scoring of paper tests so responses have to be scannable (bubbling)
- Will there be a process to match the scores on the paper test to the computer test?
 - We can ask Vince tomorrow
- Is there any way to give both sessions in one day?
 - No, that has not been discussed
 - Summer is different because that administration isn't calibrated like spring
- With paper, can we go back to giving session 2 before 1 for makeup reasons?
 - It can be considered
- Will schools be allowed more than one week to prepare the tests?
 - It is a possibility that can be looked at
- Is there a way to track if a student took a paper test in another school or district?
 - DOE is working with DRC so once a test is scanned they can track it (writing)
 - There isn't any way to track it within an administration window, you have to rely on the other district working with you
- Meeting adjourned at 5:03