



## FATA Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

8:15-9:45

Orlando, Lake Mary Marriott

- Meeting called to order at 8:15
- Board Business:
  - Barrington Maxwell, Neyda Francis, Charlene Sozio and Amy Crowell were in attendance from the board.
  - Treasurer's Report—1<sup>st</sup> quarter: \$6,870.70
  - Annual Meeting will take place Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-5:00, place TBD
  - Board positions up for election—Secretary, Treasurer, medium district director, large district director and Vice President (1 year left on term). If you are interested in running for one of the positions, please contact a board member.
- Vince Verges, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Division of Accountability, Research, and Measurement:
  - DRC is running ahead of schedule so it is possible that Grade 3 scores will be released ahead of schedule in mid-June. They are hopeful to release everything else before the July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.
  - Senate Bill 1108 Updates:
    - SAT/ACT—state will pay for all Grade 11 students in the spring, specific dates are TBD. These scores will not be included in accountability.
    - ESOL—for graduating seniors who are in the initial 2-year period, they will waive the testing graduation requirements if they show satisfactory performance on a formative assessment. DOE is still figuring out what that means, perhaps I-Ready, MAP, or STAR can be used. More information will be forthcoming.
    - Civics Literacy—beginning this fall, students in US Government will be required to take the Civics Literacy exam. It will be administered through Cambium and there will be accommodated versions offered. The assessment won't count for 30% and students won't need to pass it to graduate.
    - Some of the bill language was cleaned up so that if a district ends school in June they will not be held to administering assessments the last four weeks of school, they can administer during the DOE set window in May.
    - Release of Tests to Public—DOE will do this beginning in 2024 to avoid confusion between FSA and the BEST tests.
    - APM—summer window will be June 14-July 30 and it is voluntary. They plan to offer it again next year and are working out details such as opening testing window earlier and changing the number of attempts to 3.
- Elda Garcia, NATP
  - Elda flew in from Texas to attend and meet everyone. She gave us the vision of NATP and told us they have a website, weekly newsletter, social media and have been a host

and sponsor for meetings. She wants to hold meetings to connect states so they can share common ideas and resources.

- Open Discussion:
  - Barrington will be attending the state debrief this year on June 16<sup>th</sup>. He asked for districts to send him questions/concerns to bring to the meeting.
  - DRC/Pearson Issues
    - It was suggested to automatically send the LP/Braille practice materials when the tests are ordered so you don't have to place a separate order for them.
    - If the schools are going to continue to send the materials back directly to the vendors they need to have more boxes, they had to find more boxes this year. Please include a variety of boxes with the schools' initial shipment of materials.
    - Schools ran out of UPS labels, perhaps add a few more to their shipment next year.
    - Can the score release page on Pearson be more organized?
    - Can there be a more streamlined process for the security checklists?
    - Can the plastic bags and zip ties be optional or not send so many?
    - DRC needs better communication with UPS, schools were told they would have to pay to get a pickup which caused confusion.
    - Could UPS give the school a receipt when they pick the materials up so we have a record that it was picked up?
  - Session 2 and/or 3 approval needs to be more obvious to the TA, there were LOTS of issues this year. Perhaps have students log out after each session and they have to log back in with a different session # in order to get into the next session.
    - Barrington shared that he sent his schools a short PP with reminders along with an email that contained reminders.
  - There were so many script changes, could DOE put them on a slide and give to us so it is all in once place and easy to share with the schools.
  - It was confusing to have the TAM printed but the TAM for the testing coordinators online, could you please also print the TAM for the testing coordinators?
  - Appendix A should be added back into the TAM.
  - Could the additional order window open earlier?
  - It was suggested to make the paper tests available in an online format so students in grades 3-6 can utilize Text to Speech that way instead of a person having to read to them. There is a lot more human error when a person gives this accommodation,
  - SAT/ACT
    - Most districts continued to administer on paper this year out of habit or because they didn't have the devices to administer on the computer. IT is also more difficult to manage in PAN.
    - Cares Act Vouchers—how did you decide who got them?
      - Brevard gave them out based on need and first come first serve. They asked DOE for an extension to the registration deadline so that they could wait for the scores from the previous administration to see if some students met the concordant.

- Citrus—split them amongst the high schools. They did allow seniors to use them if they are still needing a score for Bright Futures.
    - Polk—divided them up based on the school’s population and schools could choose how to distribute. If they didn’t use them all they gave them back to the district to be redistributed.
  - 30% EOC Calculation
    - A lot of districts are counting them if they benefit the student or if it is neutral. They won’t use if it negatively affects them.
    - If the grade improves, they will issue a new report card to the student.
    - A few districts are not going to count the EOC at all and will calculate the final grade based on the four quarter grades.
  - VAM
    - Palm Beach is using local assessments and co-variants.
    - Citrus is asking the state if they can base it on grades and students passing the course vs the achievement level on the test. The change would be for this year only.
    - Manatee will hold teachers harmless they are doing an MOU with their union.
    - Orange is using co-variants and for remote learners they won’t test, and a default score will be used to calculate into VAM.
    - Washington will use teacher made pre and post tests for this year only.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:25