



Jennifer Gatz, Assistant Superintendent
Board Report February 2023

Assessment Updates

Again this year the Kansas Legislature appropriated funds for a statewide contract to provide one free ACT assessment to all public high school juniors. USD 113 juniors will have the opportunity to take the ACT on March 28th. The makeup for any students that are absent will be April 11th. These assessments will take place in each of our three high schools on these dates for all interested juniors. The ACT will consist of the four main sections: English, Reading, Math and Science. This free assessment will not include the optional Writing section. Students may request their ACT score from this assessment be sent to institutions of higher education. Students will also receive a paper copy of their score report mailed to them three to eight weeks after the completion of the assessment. Our building test coordinators have been working diligently to meet the requirements for this test administration and I appreciate their help in making this happen for our students.

The Kansas Assessment Program window will open March 20th and run until April 28th. In January, I led the building test coordinator training and the buildings are currently working on creating their schedule for the assessments and training building staff to administer these assessments. Students in grades 3-8 and 10th grade will take both reading and math. Students in grades 5, 8 and 11 will take the science assessment during the testing window. The history government social studies (HGSS) assessment has transitioned to a classroom-based assessment. For this assessment students in grades 4, 7 and 11 will be participating in a class project that will require them to make a claim/thesis, provide evidence and reasoning to support the claim. This is the second year that we have participate in the HGSS classroom-based assessment with last year serving as a pilot.

Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA)

Our district leadership team met on January 18th to continue our work for the KESA process. At this meeting we began working on our action plans for each goal which included determining lead measures (strategies) and action steps. We are currently finalizing our action plans to share with the buildings. During the PLC time on February 17th each building will continue their work on the building action plans. The final step this year will be to present our work to the KESA pilot group on April 25th. This meeting and presentation will take the place of the traditional outside visitation team visit.

MTSS Update

During the month of February, I have been meeting with teachers in each of our buildings conducting data review meetings. During these meetings I am available to answer any questions staff might have regarding their data, student grouping, and MTSS interventions. These data review meetings also allow me to gather feedback regarding our MTSS process. These meetings have also given us an opportunity to celebrate success and identify areas where we need to improve.

Our district staff will be completing the IMIS (Integrated MTSS Implementation Survey) at our PLC meetings on February 17th. This data is tied to our goal area 1 for KESA and will help us evaluate the implementation of our MTSS system.

Preschool Screening

Our USD 113 Preschools have begun preparing for our spring screening and enrollment. The screening at Sabetha Elementary will take place on March 3rd and at Axtell and Wetmore on March 24th. We use the DIAL 4 screener to determine developmental delays which is one of the qualifiers for the state preschool. To get an application or to learn more visit the USD 113 website linked [here](#).