

MSTC 2006 Program (incorporating changes through Friday, February 3)

Monday, February 27—Two All-day Workshops 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Registration: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

A Examining the Validity and Reliability of District-wide Assessments: A Second Course

Presenters: Mark Reckase  
Michigan State University

Ernie Bauer  
Oakland Schools

Ernie Bauer and Mark Reckase bring us another in their series on “large scale assessment.” This year’s workshop is a follow-up to the “Test Scores and What They Mean” workshop they presented last year. Participants in this year’s workshop will be provided with hands-on experience in examining alignment and other threats to validity such as bias. Attention will be given to practical issues such as reliable scoring of open-ended items, development of rubrics, and measures of agreement. Methods for equating tests across grades will also be addressed. Material will be presented with a minimal emphasis on statistics with the goal of providing assistance to practicing educators who want to improve their district-wide assessment system.

B Classroom Assessment FOR Learning: Developing Assessment Literacy

Presenter: Karen Bailey  
Measured Progress—Dover, New Hampshire

Karen Bailey returns this year to offer a repeat of the highly-rated workshop she provided for us last year. Based upon the oft-cited work of the Assessment Training Institute, this workshop will explore the research-proven effectiveness of assessment systems which balance high quality classroom assessments FOR learning with assessments OF learning. The primary focus of the workshop will be on “classroom” rather than “large scale” assessment.

Tuesday, February 28

Registration: 7:00 am – 4:30 pm

Exhibits: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

9:00 am – 10:05 am General Session

The Challenges Facing Michigan

The new Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mike Flanagan, will outline the economic, educational, and other challenges facing the United States and especially Michigan. These challenges will require significant changes in our expectations for our students and the programs that we provide to them. Superintendent Flanagan will outline these and provide his insights about them.

Presenter: Mike Flanagan  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Michigan

10:20 am – 11:35 am A Clinics

A1 What's New from Washington, D.C.? – An Update on NCLB

Sue Rigney returns to us again this year from the Office of Education in our nation's capital to give us the latest information on No Child Left Behind and its implications for Michigan schools.

Presenter: Sue Rigney  
United States Office of Education

A2 Understanding the MEAP Reports

The purpose of this session is to provide illustrations of each of the reports that the Michigan Educational Assessment Program used to report the 2005 MEAP results. The session provides an opportunity to better understand the reports as well as to provide feedback to MEAP staff about them.

Presenter: Mike Radke  
Michigan Department of Education

A3 Assessment for Learning

This session will provide an overview of classroom-based assessments that teachers develop and use to facilitate student learning – the assessments educators use for learning. It will consist of selected highlights from the all-day workshop the presenter gave yesterday.

Presenter: Karen Bailey  
Measured Progress—Dover, New Hampshire

A4 A Conversation with Mike Flanagan

Large group presentations rarely lend themselves to productive question and answer sessions. Frequently, however, members of the audience want to ask questions which invite the speaker to comment in greater depth about a portion of the presentation. Here is your chance to sit down with our new State Superintendent and have an informal conversation with him.

Presenter: Mike Flanagan  
Michigan's State Superintendent of Public Instruction

A5 What's New from the Exhibitors?

Conference exhibitors will present brief descriptions of some of their new assessment products and services. Since time in this clinic will be very limited, you are invited to follow up this clinic by visiting the exhibitors' displays for more in-depth conversation.

Presenters: Michael McKinney  
ACT, Inc.

Michael LeBay  
CTB/McGraw-Hill

Chris Beeso

Measured Progress

Janet Pilar  
Riverside Publishing

A6 The Assessment of Students with Disabilities in the New Michigan Merit Exam

This session will describe the manner in which students with disabilities will likely participate in the Spring 2007 Michigan Merit Examination. The list of State Board of Education-approved accommodations will be used to describe which accommodations will result in college-reportable scores or valid MME scores.

Presenters: Peggy Dutcher  
Michigan Department of Education

Peg Dana  
ACT

12:00 noon-1:30 pm Luncheon address and General Session

Policy Issues in Assessment Facing Michigan

The Chief Academic Officer, Jeremy Hughes, will provide his insights about some of the policy challenges that will need to be addressed in the coming months. Some of these are in response to changes in federal programs such as the No Child Left Behind Act, while others are in response to challenges closer to home, such as changing requirements for high school graduation.

Presenter: Jeremy Hughes  
Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer  
State of Michigan

Chair: Ed Roeber  
Michigan Department of Education

1:45 pm – 3:00 pm B Clinics

B1 Combining Formal and Informal Assessment to Improve Instruction

This session will approach the use of assessment information from three perspectives. The Chair of the Association of American Publishers will provide an overview of recent national activities and emerging state and local trends. A school principal will describe how schools can maximize the value of formal and informal assessment information at the school and classroom levels. A university professor will discuss ways his school of education prepares new teachers to use assessment and evaluative information to improve instruction.

Presenters: Michael H. Kean  
Vice President, McGraw-Hill Education

Elizabeth Vartanian-Gibbs  
Principal, Hoben Elementary, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Stuart C. Rankin, Adjunct Professor  
The University of Michigan

**B2 Implications of the New Proposed Rules for Alternate Assessment for Michigan Schools**

This session will focus on the implications of the recently-released proposed rules for additional flexibility in assessing students with disabilities. Questions to be addressed include whether Michigan will continue to qualify for the 2% flexibility for NCLB accountability purposes. Also to be discussed are what states such as Michigan would need to do in order to receive approval to qualify.

Presenters: Sue Rigney  
United States Office of Education

Peggy Dutcher  
Michigan Department of Education

**B3 A Conversation with Jeremy Hughes**

Large group presentations rarely lend themselves to productive question and answer sessions. Frequently, however, members of the audience want to ask questions which invite the speaker to comment in greater depth about a portion of the presentation. Here is your chance to sit down with our state's Deputy Superintendent and have an informal conversation with him.

Presenter: Jeremy Hughes  
Michigan's Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer

**B4 Using Test Results for Accountability and Promoting Student Learning: The Ontario Experience**

Presenters from Ontario's independent testing agency will describe how their large scale testing results influence policy and school programming at the provincial and local school district levels.

Presenters: Victoria Hemming  
Chief Assessment Officer—Education Quality and Accountability Office

Terri MacDonald  
Education Officer, School Support and Outreach—Education Quality and Accountability Office

**B5 Online MEAP**

This session will describe the comparability study carried out on the 2005 MEAP with a group of sixth grade students who took the MEAP ELA and Social Studies tests online. Results of the comparability studies and their implications will be presented and discussed.

Presenter: Paul Stemmer  
Michigan Department of Education

**B6 Beyond the MEAP: Taking a Classroom and District View of Writing**

This session will make use of actual student writing and varied assessment tools to help participants scaffold toward a view of writing that satisfies student, classroom, and district needs.

Presenter: Richard Koch  
Professor of English, Adrian College

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm C Clinics

C1 Do Your Common District-Wide Assessments Work?

This presentation will focus on the Top 10 Questions that you need to answer about the common assessments you are using to help ensure the results mean what they should mean.

Presenters: David Treder  
Coordinator—Research, Assessment & Evaluation—Genesee Intermediate School District

Ernie Bauer  
Consultant for Research, Evaluation and Assessment—Oakland Schools

C2 Bifocal: Focus on Assessment for Learning

Bifocal explores the effective use of data from common assessments. It also utilizes assessment designs to effectively analyze student strengths and weaknesses and uses on-going assessment and techniques that create learning opportunities during test taking.

Presenters: Valerie Mills  
Mathematics Consultant—Oakland Schools

Dana Gosen  
Mathematics Consultant—Oakland Schools

C3 The ABC's of Automated Essay Scoring

This session will focus on the use of automated essay scoring (AES) as both a standardized assessment and vehicle for writing instruction. In this sense, the assessment of writing can be embedded as part of the daily activities associated with teaching it. Moreover, AES can automatically track student growth (using standard benchmarks) throughout the school year, and can be made available to students outside of formal classroom settings. The presenter will describe the basics of how the technology works, demonstrate its use, and discuss relevant research findings.

Presenter: Mark D. Shermis  
Associate Dean-Research & Grants  
Professor of Educational and Psychological Studies  
Florida International University

C4 New Enhancements to the ACT and SAT: What You Need to Know

The new SAT was administered for the first time on March 12, 2005. The ACT has added a writing sample. The presenters from SAT and ACT will summarize the changes and what they mean to students and school personnel. Time will be made available during the session for questions.

Presenters: Glenn Milewski  
Associate Research Scientist, The College Board

Michael McKinney  
ACT

C5 Update on Plans to Assess Students with Disabilities in Michigan

This session will provide an overview of the current status of the Assessment of Students with Disabilities program within the Michigan Department of Education. The session will also describe the current plans and activities to develop MI-Access for all students who participate in it.

Presenters: Peggy Dutcher  
Michigan Department of Education

Jim Griffiths  
Michigan Department of Education

C6 Assessment of Special Education Students Across the United States

This session will describe some of the key issues in the assessment of students with disabilities across the United States. This will include the participation of these students in general education assessment programs, the nature of alternate assessments for those students unable to do so, and how the performance of these students is reported and included in state and national accountability programs.

Presenter: Sue Bechard  
Measured Progress—Dover, New Hampshire

Wednesday, March 1

Registration: 7:00 am – 3:45 pm

Exhibit Hours: 8:00 am – 3:45 pm

9:00 am – 10:05 am General Session

Achievement in America: The Numbers and The Stories They Tell

A walk through the data and straight into the lives, hearts, and minds of the students behind the numbers.

Presenters: Daria Hall, The Education Trust, Washington DC  
Brooke Haycock, The Education Trust, Washington DC

Chair: Terry Davidson  
Conference Director

10:20 am – 11:35 am D Clinics

D1 The First Ten Days: Bringing Students Up to Speed for the ELA MEAP

This interactive presentation is designed to acquaint participants with ELA MEAP units of study intended for use during the first ten days of school. Not only do these units align with the literacy demands of the test, they promote research-based practices and build classroom community as well.

Presenter: Laura Schiller

Literacy Consultant, Oakland Schools

D2 Harnessing the Wow Factor: Software for Assessing Student Achievement and Analyzing Assessment Results

Attendees will learn about the interdisciplinary process we used to select a web-based student assessment system and data analysis tool, an overview of the software we selected, our implementation models, and what we have learned in the first year of implementation.

Presenters: Linda Glowaz  
Director of Information and Testing Services—Lake Orion Community Schools

Ernie Bauer  
Consultant for Research—Evaluation and Assessment, Oakland Schools

D3 A Conversation with Brooke Haycock and Daria Hall

Large group presentations rarely lend themselves to productive question and answer sessions. Frequently, however, members of the audience want to ask questions which invite the speakers to comment in greater depth about a portion of the presentation. Here is your chance to sit down with Brooke Haycock and Daria Hall and have an informal conversation with them.

Presenters: Brooke Haycock  
The Education Trust, Washington, D.C.

Daria Hall  
The Education Trust, Washington, D.C.

D4 Overview of the MDE Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability

This session will provide an overview of the assessment, accreditation, and accountability programs in Michigan as administered by the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability.

Presenters: Edward Roeber  
Mike Radke  
Peggy Dutcher  
Marilyn Roberts  
Paul Bielawski  
All presenters from the Michigan Department of Education

D5 Classroom Assessments: Examine, Decide, and Teach

This presentation will describe how two schools used Michigan Literacy Progress Profile (MLPP) assessments to examine student performance and make instructional decisions. This data-driven instruction changed teachers, classrooms, and schools while improving student performance.

Presenters: Peggy Kraemer  
Holly Community Schools

Kelly Schneider  
Oak Park Schools

Sandi Duchinsky  
Oak Park Schools

D6 Measuring Growth in Student Achievement

This session will provide an overview of models used to measure growth in student achievement. The presenter will also describe plans for reporting growth in future MEAP assessments.

Presenter: Joseph Martineau  
Michigan Department of Education

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm E Clinics

E1 The Current Status of High School Testing in Michigan

This session will provide an overview of the current status of high school testing in Michigan, as well as the current plans to transition from the MEAP High School Test to the Michigan Merit Examination, a college entrance test-based assessment.

Presenters: Edward Roeber  
Michigan Department of Education

Galen Johnson  
ACT

E2 Investigating Inappropriate Assessment Administration Allegations

This session will provide an overview of the complaint procedures used by the Michigan Department of Education to investigate allegations of irregularities in the preparation for and administration of the assessments offered by MDE's Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability.

Presenters: Jim Griffiths  
Michigan Department of Education

Paul Stemmer  
Michigan Department of Education

E3 Update on Education YES! and NCLB AYP

This session will present an overview of current programs and future plans for school accreditation and accountability as reported on Michigan's "report cards."

Presenter: Paul Bielawski  
Michigan Department of Education

E4 Assessments of Reading Fluency

This session will present the results of a study on reading fluency assessment of students in grades 2, 4, and 6. We will examine the validity of fluency assessments and student performance in terms of comprehension, decoding, rate, and expression. Profiles of students performing at different levels of proficiency on commonly used one-minute reads will also be described including the implications for assessment and instruction.

Presenters: Karen K. Wixson  
Professor, The University of Michigan

Sheila Valencia  
Professor, University of Washington

E5 Content Assessments Used in The 2005-06 MEAP

The session will describe the content assessments used in the 2005-06 MEAP grades 3-8 assessments.

Moderator: Bill Brown  
Michigan Department of Education

Presenters: Ruth Athan  
Rodger Epp  
Jane Faulds  
Kyle Ward  
All presenters from the Michigan Department of Education

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm F Clinics

F1 Administering The Michigan Merit Examination Assessments

This session will present an overview of the assessment administration procedures likely to be used for the Michigan Merit Examination assessments. These will include both the college entrance test components and the Michigan-developed components of the MME.

Presenter: Jim Griffiths  
Michigan Department of Education

F2 OEAA Technical Advisory Committee—Illuminating the “Black Box” of Assessment

This session will describe the functioning of the Technical Advisory Committee that advises the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability within the Michigan Department of Education. The presentation will describe recent discussion topics and how the group makes recommendations on these issues.

Presenters: Edward Roeber  
Michigan Department of Education

Joseph Martineau  
Michigan Department of Education

Roger Trent  
Technical Advisory Committee Member

F3 The Test Builder’s License Class or How to Construct High Quality District-Wide Common Assessments

The essential processes of test construction from writing test specifications, blueprints, item writing, reviews, and tryouts will be presented and discussed.

Presenter: Jim Gullen  
Research, Evaluation & Assessment Consultant, Oakland Schools

F4 The Assessment of English Language Learners

This session will provide an update on the English language proficiency assessment projects that Michigan is participating in, as well as plans for the appropriate participation of Michigan's English language learners in the academic assessments of MEAP.

Presenters: Mazin Heiderson  
Michigan Department of Education

Marilyn Roberts  
Michigan Department of Education

F5 Writing for MEAP/ACT/SAT/AP and All Those Other Tests

This presentation explains how teachers and schools can support test practices in writing instruction and still help students prepare for high-stakes writing tests.

Presenter: Anne Gere  
Professor, The University of Michigan

F6 The Con-test Pro-test—It All Depends!

This session will describe the role that test scores actually play in university admission decisions.

Presenter: Ted Spencer  
Director of Undergraduate Admissions, The University of Michigan