



Iowa Assessment Task Force

September 17, 2014, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm
DMACC Ankeny, Bldg 7, Maple Room

Meeting Notes

Notes submitted by Circe Stumbo

ATTENDEES:

Task Force Members:

Dave Tilly (Chair), Ruth Allison, Catherine Blando, Shelly Bosovich, Kathy Brenny, Martha Bruckner, Joe DeHart, Lowell Ernst, Diana Gonzalez, Harry Heiligenthal, Tina L. Hoffman, Mark Lane, JoEllen Latham, Jane Lindaman, Jon W. McKenzie, Angela Olson, Elliott Smith, Denise Wall, Melanie Wirtz, Karen Woltman

Facilitator:

Circe Stumbo

DE Staff Observers:

Colleen Anderson; Dianne Chadwick; Tom Deeter; Connor Hood

Others:

Three observers from the public were in attendance; assessment developers participated in-person; and Iowans who were involved in the SBAC pilot joined for one hour via technology.

NOTES:

The Task Force meeting convened at 8:00 am.

Agenda Item: Confirm process for the day, including interview questions

The Task Force reviewed and approved the agenda as presented. The Task Force reviewed the draft interview questions, revised the questions for the students for clarity, and selected volunteers to ask specific questions.

Agenda Item: Review ACT's request to resubmit a response to the second RFI

The Task Force read the letter from ACT and tabled vote on ACT to allow for more discussion time after the interviews with users.

Agenda Item: Consider user input: Students, teachers, principals, and curriculum directors

The Task Force interviewed students, teachers, principals and curriculum directors who took part in the SBAC pilot last spring. These lowans were from Sioux City, Bettendorf and Maple Valley and they joined via technology.

The three districts invited for Iowa Testing were not able to participate at the last minute. The Task Force decided to invite Iowa Testing schools to participate in another meeting via technology at a later time.

Agenda Item, continued: Review ACT's request to resubmit a response to the second RFI

The Task Force returned to ACT's request to resubmit for RFI. Gonzales moved to allow ACT to resubmit, Woltman seconded. The motion failed with four voting in favor (Gonzales, Smith, Tilly, and Woltman), and 16 voting against.

Agenda Item: Review SBAC and DRC artifacts

The Task Force reviewed artifacts from SBAC and Task Force the questions that were asked by the Task Force prior to the meeting in order to identify any additional questions needing addressed. The Task Force reviewed the sample test items on the SBAC website. Additional questions were developed for the interview. The Task Force agreed not to re-ask the questions submitted to SBAC ahead of time an instead to ask new questions that arose out of the review. The Task Force agreed on the following process and individual Task Force members volunteered to ask the specific questions noted:

- Vendors make a short presentation
- Ask opening questions: Lane
- Additional questions from artifacts: Wirtz
- Questions that arose during the user interviews: Tilly
- Questions about coverage: Woltman
- Questions about reporting: Gonzales
- Closing questions: Hoffman
- It was agreed that any Task Force member may ask probing questions throughout the process

Agenda Item: Interview SBAC and DRC representatives

After a brief break for lunch, the Task Force reconvened with representatives from SBAC and DRC, including Joe Willhoft, Executive Director, Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, and Patricia McDivitt, Sr. VP, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, and Marc Julian, Sr. Director, Psychometric Services, of DRC. DRC and SBAC made a brief presentation. Task Force members asked the interview questions and follow-up questions.

Agenda Item: Review Iowa Testing Program artifacts

The Task Force reviewed the artifacts and responses to questions sent to Iowa Testing Program. The Task Force identified additional ITP-specific questions to those already identified. The Task Force decided to follow the same process as SBAC/DRC, except because they were not Iowa users on morning panel, the Task Force framed their own questions regarding the pilot/item tryouts and the test blueprint.

Agenda Item: Interview Iowa Testing Program representatives

After introductions, Iowa Testing Program—represented by Steve Dunbar, Kathy Welch, and Dave Henkhaus—presented briefly and the Task Force members asked their interview questions and follow-up questions.

Agenda Item: Deliberate findings

After a brief break for supper, the Task Force reviewed their five criteria to consider when deliberating among the assessment options.

1. Evidence from round 1 and additional evidence we got today.
2. Presentation and experience of test developer
3. Review from test items
4. References user experience
5. Cost

The Task Force discussed what evidence they have and what else they may need to know.

Agenda Item: Confirm schedule between now and end of the year

Members of the Task Force agreed to review the various artifacts individually. The IDE staff was charged with asking Iowa Testing Program for access to test items and forms and infrastructure information about technology from the ICN, etc.

The Task Force wished to revisit their vision and charge at a future meeting and considered whether to conduct a second interview of the assessment developers.

Agenda Item: Adjourn

The Task Force adjourned at 8:00 pm.