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To: District Directors

From: Steve Canavero, Deputy Superintendent for Student Achievement

Cc: Dale Erquiaga, State Superintendent

Re: State Board of Education action related to HSPE mathematics

On Wednesday, February 26, 2014, the Nevada State Board of Education (SBE) took action that will affect the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) mathematics cut score. After much discussion and deliberation the SBE voted (5-1) to extend the transitional cut score of 242 in mathematics to the two remaining classes still subject to passing the HSPE in order to graduate.

- The extension of the transitional cut score will apply to current 10th grade students for the upcoming March administration and thereafter.
- The extension of the transitional cut score will retroactively apply to current 11th grade students (and those retained in 10th grade).
 - Any student, who received at least a 242 on the HSPE Grade 10 mathematics test from March 2013, or the November Retest in 2013, has now passed the math test and does not have to take the March retest examination.
 - The NDE will create a list of students, based off the Pre-Id file, with an HSPE mathematics score of 242-299 to send to districts to help you sort out those who do not need to test. This population of students represents those that did not pass the HSPE mathematics under the 300 cut score.
- The extension of the transitional cut score will apply to all subsequent re-test opportunities and will extend into Adult High Schools as applicable.
- The Department recognizes that Measured Progress has sent test material for all students prior to this action by the SBE. The following guidance is offered on how to manage the logistics of HSPE mathematics test material while upholding test security procedures:
 - If the schools have not yet placed labels on the answer document (AD), the label can be sent back (not attached to an AD) and will be stored, but since there is no answer document, the state will not receive extraneous data in the state data file. The unused ADs will be shredded.

- If the school has already placed the label on an AD, simply voiding the document (write the word “Void” or place a large X on the demographics page) will also prevent the answer document from being scored, and therefore keep extraneous data from the state data file. These docs are logged into a database; to make it easy for Measured Progress to find those if a school calls and says they are missing a score. Please do not write over the barcodes.

Since there is the potential for a lot of these from one school, if it makes it easier, the school may bundle these unused, voided ADs together by paperclip or rubber band. Measured Progress will then store all of them together, but it saves the time of writing Void on every document.

- If the school does not void an answer document, regardless of whether there are no scores, it will be scanned and scored. The score will be included in the state level data file, and will need to be sorted out in Bighorn afterwards. We are working with Measured Progress to explore the feasibility to create a report of all Live ADs that have no answers coded, to make it easier to sort them.
- Because the graduation requirements for current 12th grade students already includes the transitional cut score for HSPE mathematics of 242, there are no changes for this group of students.
- Please note that many students will still need to pass their science and reading assessments using the same answer document. This change in cut scores is for mathematics only.