Commission on Assessment Review and Use in Public Schools

October 19, 2017

Meeting Purpose

This meeting will ensure the commission:

- Understands the expectations and outcomes as requested by the Louisiana Legislature
- Reviews survey findings
- Forms report subcommittee
- Prepares for key next steps to move the commission's work ahead

Agenda

I. Call to order and roll call

II. Purpose and overview

III. Survey results and discussion

IV. Local assessment updates

V. Report development

VI. Commission timeline and next steps

VII. Public comment

Meeting Procedures

- **Committee meetings**: Meetings of the Assessment Committee will be advertised, open to the public, and held pursuant to the Louisiana Open Meetings Law.

- **Committee leadership**: The committee will be facilitated by the elected chairperson.

- **Voting and voting proxies**: Other recent education advisory bodies have required appointed members to be present in order to vote. Proxies have been permitted to attend and participate in discussion, but have not been allowed to not vote. They have also reserved votes for final recommendations and reports, rather than voting on many individual topics and subtopics in order to support the work of the group to progress. The chair, with input from this commission, will determine how best to address these considerations.

Public Comment

- **Public comment at meetings**: Public comment will be received during each committee meeting and prior to any votes or at the end of each meeting if no vote is taken. Members of the public may also submit written comments for the record.

- **Content of public comment**: All public comment must relate to the review of student assessments and, specifically, the agenda item under consideration.

Purpose and Overview

House Resolution 166 of the 2017 Regular Session

The legislature, through HR 166 of the 2017 Regular Session, has urged and requested this commission to study and make recommendations relative to student assessments. HR 166 is not a law, but in it the Legislature has requested several specific items.

The resolution offers the following Legislative findings and background on why the commission's work is needed:

- *"Student assessments are an essential part of the public education system and are necessary to provide school systems, parents and policymakers with formative information on student achievement levels and how students are performing as compared to students throughout the state and nation.*
- *Assessing students is necessary to continue to make educational gains but there is a need to examine the possible duplication of local, state and nationally recognized assessments.*
- *It is critical that the civil right to a quality education for all children be upheld and verified through objective evidence of student learning.*
- *All assessments administered to students should have instructional value and a stated purpose and should be used to enhance the teaching and learning process."*

Commission Membership

Member	Appointing Authority	Member	Appointing Authority
Rebecca Kockler	State Superintendent or Designee	Scott Richard	Louisiana School Boards Association Representative
Dr. Gary Jones	BESE President or Designee	Sandra Douglas	Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools Representative
Donald Songy	Governor or Designee	Eva Kemp	Louisiana Chapter of Education Reform Now Representative
Deborah Meaux	Louisiana Association of Educators Representative	Ingrid Fields	Nonpublic School Commission Representative
Larry Carter	Louisiana Federation of Teachers Representative	Randy Hayden	Louisiana Association of Business and Industry Representative
Dr. Keith Courville	Association of Professional Educators of Louisiana Representative	Rep. Polly Thomas	Council for a Better Louisiana Representative
Dr. Ragan Lorraine	Louisiana Association of Principals Representative	Ronnie Briggs	Louisiana Federation for Children Representative

Commission Membership

Member	Appointing Authority	Member	Appointing Authority
Dr. Keith Leger	Stand for Children Representative	Dr. Joyce Polk	A Parent Representative selected by the Urban League of Louisiana
David Alexander	Local School Superintendent appointed by the Governor	Peggy Seeley	A Parent Representative selected by the Louisiana Parent Teacher Association
Kevin George	Local School Superintendent appointed by the BESE President	Dr. Wade Smith	Nationally Recognized Education Expert on Student Assessments selected by the Governor
Dr. Dolores Cormier-Zenon	National Board Certified Teacher selected by the Louisiana National Board Certified Teachers Network	Dr. Chris Domaleski	Nationally Recognized Education Expert on Student Assessments selected by the BESE President
Kathy Noel	The Chairman of the Accountability Commission	Robbi Gouaux	A Local School District Test Coordinator selected by the BESE President
Patsy White	A Representative of SEAP selected by the chairman of the panel		

Duties of the Commission

HR 166 calls on this commission to:

1. Review the purpose of all local, state, and nationally recognized assessments administered by local school systems, whether summative or formative.
2. Determine and assess how much time is spent in each grade and in each local school system on administering all local, state, and nationally recognized assessments.
3. Determine if and to what extent the assessments are duplicative or otherwise unnecessary.
4. Review and analyze the local school systems' and the state Department of Education's interests in requiring assessments and attempt to develop a statewide approach to administering assessments.
5. Determine whether the current local and state schedules for administering assessments allot enough time between administering and receiving the results of a formative assessment to meaningfully inform instruction.
6. Determine and assess if the testing windows implemented by the local school systems and the state have any negative ancillary effects on instruction, materials and equipment use, and school calendars.

Duties of the Commission

7. Determine and review the types of testing data from state assessments to be provided to teachers to inform instruction.
8. Make recommendations on all of the following:
    a. How local school systems and the state can improve the process for administering all local, state, and nationally recognized assessments and how such assessments are used to inform instruction.
    b. If the commission finds that the allotted time for administering assessments is resulting in reduced instruction time, the most efficient and effective methods to ensure that adequate time is allotted to both administering assessments and instruction.
    c. The developmentally appropriate elements, if any, that should be included in an assessment administered to kindergarten students.
    d. Any other issues as determined by the commission.

Commission Timelines in HR 166

HR 166 urges the commission provide requested items by the following timelines:

- **October 15, 2017** – Submit the assessment survey results to the commission and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

- **January 15, 2018** – Submit a written report of findings and recommendations to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education

- **March 1, 2018** – Review of the commission's report by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and submission of a written report to the governor, the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education as to whether the board accepts or rejects the commission's findings and recommendations

Survey Results and Discussion

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey
Overview

Two surveys were distributed from September 28 to October 10 to gather quantitative and qualitative data from Louisiana public school system staff (school system leaders, school leaders, and educators) on the following:

- **Local/non-summative assessments**
- **State/summative assessments**
- **General questions on assessment reduction and local policies**

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey
Results

Survey results will be shared with the Commission in the following order:

1. *School Leader/Educator Survey*:
    a. Survey respondents
    b. Summative assessment data
    c. Non-Summative assessment data

2. *School System Survey:*
    a. Survey respondents
    b. Summative assessment data
    c. Non-Summative assessment data

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

School Leader and Educator Survey Results

Respondents

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey
Respondents

School Leader/Educator Survey Completion Rate By Role

School leader	Teacher	Other
1063	7288	848

9199 total respondents

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

School Leader and Educator Survey Results

Summative Assessment Data

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Summative Assessment Data

School leaders/educators were asked: How are the results from summative assessments used?

School leaders/educators report "informing teacher instruction" (84%) as most common method for assessment use. *(Q12 SL/T)*

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Summative Assessment Data

Over the past few years, the state transitioned from testing for two weeks to one week. As reflected in the data below, the majority of **school leaders/educators** (61%) prefer this shift. *(Q7 SL/T)*

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Summative Assessment Data

School leaders/educators were asked: How is your school system minimizing the number of days used within the flexible assessment window?

67% of **school leaders/educators** report that they have reduced time spent on statewide summative test via improved scheduling. *(Q8 SL/T)*

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

School Leader and Educator Survey Results

Non-Summative/Local Assessment Data

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Non-Summative Assessment Data

Assessment Reduction

School leaders/educators were asked: Has your school cut back time spent on locally-required assessments within the last two years? *(Q17 SL/T)*

71% of **school leaders/educators** indicate that the frequency of local assessments has not declined over the past two years. Many report an increase.

634 3483 815

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Non-Summative Assessment Data

Assessment Reduction

School leaders/educators were asked: How much time do you spend on local (school-level or school system/district) required assessments?

School leaders/educators report spending a significant amount of time administering local assessments. *(Q15 SL/T)*

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

School System Survey Results

Respondents

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey
Respondents

School System Survey Completion Rate By Role

119 total respondents

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

School System Survey Results

Summative Assessment Data

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Summative Assessment Data

School systems were asked to review a chart depicting the use and administration of state assessments in their school system.

School systems were asked: Does this state assessment chart accurately represent your school system?

88% of **school systems** report uniformity in administration and usage across all statewide testing.

(Q324 SS)

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

School System Survey Results

Non-Summative/Local Assessment Data

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Non-Summative Assessment Data

Assessment Quality

School systems were asked questions about their use of different local assessments. Many of these assessments have gone through the LDOE quality review process, which is led by Louisiana educators. Assessment quality is defined as follows:

- **TIER 1 - EXEMPLIFIES QUALITY:**
  Meets all non-negotiable criteria and scored the best possible on all indicators of superior quality

- **TIER 2 - APPROACHING QUALITY:**
  Meets all non-negotiable criteria and some indicators of superior quality

- **TIER 3 - NOT REPRESENTING QUALITY:**
  Does not meet non-negotiable criteria

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Non-Summative Assessment Data

Assessment Quality

School systems report using assessments of varying quality. *(Per local assessment, Q4-19, SS)*

Tier 1	15% school systems use Tier 1 assessments
Tier 2	0% school systems use Tier 2 assessments
Tier 3	51% school systems use Tier 3 assessments
Not reviewed	57% school systems use assessments that have not gone through the quality review process

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Non-Summative Assessment Data

Assessment Quantity

School systems report using several different local assessments that are administered over multiple grade levels. *(Q4-19 SS)*

On average, **school systems** report using two different local assessments.
This count ranges from 0 to 9 different local assessments.

Louisiana Assessment Commission Survey

Non-Summative Assessment Data

Assessment Reduction

School systems were asked: Which assessments have you discontinued in the past two years?

School systems report mixed results in the discontinuation of assessments since 2015.

(Q399 SS)

Local Assessment Updates

Report Development

- Form report subcommittee
- Review report development timeline

Report Development Timeline

Action Step	Timeline
Form report subcommittee	Today
Subcommittee drafts report	October 19-November 30
Report draft available (LDOE Website)	December 1
Report commission feedback	December 7 (meeting in Baton Rouge)
Final report posted (LDOE Website)	January 15

Commission Timeline and Next Steps

Commission Process and Timeline

Meeting	Purpose	Date	Location
Commission Meeting #1	*Review purpose, elect chair, and approve survey*	Thursday, September 21, 2017	Baton Rouge
Survey Released	*Assessment survey released to LEAs*	October 1 - October 10, 2017	Online
Survey Results and Meeting #2 Materials	*LDE Website Posting*	October 15, 2017	LDE Website
Commission Meeting #2	***Review findings and outline report***	**October 19, 2017**	**Baton Rouge**
Report Draft and Meeting #3 materials	*LDE Website Posting*	December 1, 2017	LDE Website
Commission Meeting #3	*Finalize report*	December 7, 2017	Baton Rouge
Final Report Posted	*LDE Website Posting*	January 15, 2018	LDE Website
BESE Reviews Report		March 1, 2018	Baton Rouge

Commission Report Timeline

HR 166 requests that the commission complete its work according to the following timelines:

- **October 15, 2017** – The Department of Education shall submit the assessment survey results to the commission and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
- **January 15, 2018** – The commission shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.
- **March 1, 2018** – The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall review and consider the commission's findings and recommendations and submit a written report to the governor, the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education as to whether the board accepts or rejects the commission's findings and recommendations.

Public Comment

Public Comment

- **Public comment at meetings**: Public comment will be received during each committee meeting and prior to any votes or at the end of each meeting if no vote is taken. Members of the public may also submit written comments for the record.

- **Content of public comment**: All public comment must relate to the review of student assessments, not other matters of policy.

Commission Next Steps

- The Assessment Commission Subcommittee will draft the report between October 19-December 1.

- The Department will share the draft report along with additional meeting #3 materials and post by December 1.

Commission Process and Timeline

Meeting	Purpose	Date	Location
Commission Meeting #1	*Elect chair and review purpose*	Thursday, September 21, 2017	Baton Rouge
Survey Released	*Assessment survey released to LEAs*	October 1 - October 10, 2017	Online
Survey Results and Meeting #2 Materials	*LDE Website Posting*	October 15, 2017	LDE Website
Commission Meeting #2	*Review findings and outline report*	October 19, 2017	Baton Rouge
Report Draft and Meeting #3 materials	*LDE Website Posting*	December 1, 2017	LDE Website
Commission Meeting #3	*Finalize report*	December 7, 2017	Baton Rouge
Final Report Posted	*LDE Website Posting*	January 15, 2018	LDE Website
BESE Reviews Report		March 1, 2018	Baton Rouge