

STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D. Secretary and Executive Officer April 2, 2020

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey

State Superintendent of Education

RE: Early Assessment Online Vendor Workshops Now Available

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is pleased to advise you that we are ahead of schedule on releasing the Alabama Early Reading and Math Assessment Workshop to local education agencies (LEAs). Vendor presentations will be available for review beginning **Friday**, **April 3**, **2020**, allowing schools additional time to make their early reading and early math assessment system final selections. Vendor presentations will be available for viewing through May 8, 2020.

As a reminder, please submit questions to the vendors at the following link: eram@alsde.edu
no later than April 10. Vendor responses will be posted on April 24. The deadline for LEAs to complete their early reading and early math assessment options is May 8, 2020, in the portal: Early Reading and Math Assessment Selections.

Please distribute and refer to the updated vendor links below:

| Company | Link |
|----------------------------|---|
| Amplify | https://go.info.amplify.com/mCLASS_Alabama_edition |
| Curriculum Associates | https://vimeo.com/399929947 |
| IStation | https://info.istation.com/alabama |
| NWEA | https://vimeo.com/400069350 |
| Pearson | https://www.brainshark.com/pearsonassessments/vu?pi=zGWzd1WUuzMU1Cz0 |
| Renaissance (link updated) | https://renaissance.zoom.us/rec/share/v9dxN6Pbp21OY4HJ7HDFYe0HL7T9aaa8 03UYq EEmRt-C3 RZB4AjLxMbW4E9z7 |

Once your selection is completed in the portal, the ALSDE will provide funding to your district based on your Grades K-3 ADM. At that point, LEAs should enter into a contract with the selected vendor and organize the needed professional development for teachers by June 24, 2020. All funds distributed to LEAs must be utilized for these K-3 early reading and math assessment systems and corresponding professional development.

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This schedule will help to ensure that LEAs have time for the assessment programs implemented by the 2020-2021 school year. Not adhering to these deadlines could postpone the LEAs implementation of the *Alabama Literacy Act*. The ALSDE is committed to helping you make your selections by the deadline; however, we also understand that future changes may alter this schedule.

If there is an extenuating circumstance specific to your LEA, please contact Dr. Elisabeth Davis at edavis@alsde.edu or (334) 324-3574. While we are working through uncertain times, it is critical that LEAs do their best to adhere to these timelines. These tools have the capacity to provide LEAs with individualized diagnostic information to help educators with decisions in early reading and math, especially given the impact on instructional time during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for your willingness to join the ALSDE in our efforts to support every child, every chance, every day.

EGM:SL:KD

cc: Chief School Financial Officers
Grades K-3 Elementary Principals

Dr. Daniel Boyd
Mr. Andy Craig
Dr. Elisabeth Davis
Dr. Jeffery Langham
Mrs. Angela Martin
Dr. Sandy Ledwell
Mrs. Karen W. Porter
Mrs. Maggie Hicks

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