February 3, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey

State Superintendent of Education

RE: Early Years Math and Reading Assessments Data Reporting Option

Pending full implementation of PowerSchool, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) has been working directly with the approved list of early math and reading assessment vendors to streamline this year’s data collection approach and solidify future reporting processes. This will allow vendors to securely provide reports that will be directly imported into PowerSchool, which will alleviate much of the burden of data reporting on the local education agencies (LEAs) while also safeguarding the accuracy of the data. Districts that participate in direct reporting of data will NOT need to submit student-level data manually through a portal. In limited cases, LEAs may be requested to upload specific data into a secure portal.

Upon completion of this process, LEAs whose contracts with vendors include a data-sharing agreement will not need to take any action for middle-of-year or end-of-year data reporting for math or end-of-year data reporting for reading, unless specifically requested by the ALSDE. Middle-of-year data reporting for reading in the Caveon portal will continue as it is currently in process. LEAs whose contracts with vendors do not include a data-sharing agreement may receive a request to enter into a data-sharing agreement from their vendor. These districts may choose to allow the vendor to share data directly with the ALSDE through a secure portal or submit their data manually according to the required deadlines.

The ALSDE appreciates your continued efforts to plan for effective administration, implementation, and data reporting from these essential tools while balancing the impact of COVID-19 and other tasks this school year. As noted in the memorandum dated July 11, 2020, LEAs may need to continually revisit and possibly alter deadlines, timelines, and other plans regarding the administration of early math and reading assessments for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Christie Metz, Alabama Reading Initiative, at christie.metz@alsde.edu or at 334-694-4918; Dr. Nickey Johnson, Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiatives, at nickey.johnson@alsde.edu or at 334-694-4730; or Dr. Tracye Strichik, Alabama Reading Initiative, at tracye.strichik@alsde.edu or at 334-694-4632.

EGM/ED/DM

cc: Dr. Daniel Boyd
Dr. Elisabeth Davis
Dr. Tracye Strichik
Dr. Nickey Johnson
Ms. Christie Metz

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