

# 2009-10 North Dakota Alternate Assessment 1( NDAA 1)

Training Module for Teachers~  
Use with NDAA1 Test Directions Manual  
(TDM)



# All Materials can be found at:

- [www.dpi.state.nd.us](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us)
  - Click on Testing and Assessment or Special Education
  - Click on NDAA
    - There are general materials
    - NDAA1 Materials
    - NDAA2 Materials
    - Test Directions Manuals for both the NDAA1 and NDAA2



## The North Dakota State Assessment system includes the following options: (TDM p. 3-4)

- The North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA) as it is presented to the majority of students,
- The NDSA with accommodations which are listed in a student's IEP, 504, or LEP plan,
- The North Dakota Alternate Assessment 1 (NDAA 1) for students with severe cognitive disabilities,
- The North Dakota Alternate Assessment 2 (NDAA 2) with or without accommodations, for students with persistent learning difficulties,
- Any combination of the above (depending on student need & Team decision).



# There are some changes this year:

In the 2008-09 version of the NDAA1 we added one "Prescribed anchor item" in math and reading. These items were added in order to make the NDAA1 more valid and reliable from student to student.

This year, in addition to the reading and math prescribed anchors, we are adding one science prescribed anchor item per grade.

Remember: science is only tested in grades 4, 8, and 11.

The NDAA1 science test underwent an alignment study in the summer of 2009. This study was led by the National Center For Assessment in conjunction with ND science and special education teachers.



# Alignment Study Results:

Indicate that the NDAA1 is not meeting the US Department of Education required standards for alignment in the following areas:

- Some of the items were considered to be “access skills” rather than science academic content.
- Some items were considered to be “not science” content.
- Some were considered to be “foundational skills” of which there can be approximately 20 % at the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, but not at higher grades.
- Some of the items were considered academic, but need to be revised.



# Results are not surprising:

- ND created the NDAA1 as a result of IDEA '97 regulations which required states to create an alternate assessment for students with severe cognitive disabilities.
- Guidance at that time recommended “linkage to the state standards” rather than alignment.
- NCLB has increased the requirements on alternate assessments (especially in science as science became a requirement later than math and reading).
- We knew that the NDAA1 would not measure well against the expectation of “alignment to the standards” as it was not originally written for that purpose.



## Given those findings we can expect change in the future on the NDAA1.

- In order to be in full compliance of the NCLB requirements, we will be making some changes, and adding anchor items in science this year.
- Next year we anticipate that the NDAA1 will look a lot different than it does now.
- Next year “prescribed anchor-type items” will comprise the bulk of the test.
- That is to say, that what you see as anchors now, will be standard questions next year.
- Secondary Indicators.....



# Secondary Indicators:

- Will be going away! The more academic the activities become the less sense these indicators make.
- This year you will still use the secondary indicators for math, reading, and some science, however,
- Secondary indicators will not be included in the science “prescribed anchor items” this year.
- ND is currently under Peer Review by the US Department of Education for science and as such, we are not allowed to make arbitrary changes in the assessment system. If this were not the case we would remove all of the secondary indicators this year.



## Higher Expectations in academic content:

- These are important things to keep in mind between now and next year.
- Grade level expectations are critical.
- Access to grade level content is critical.
- Standards based IEPs are critical.
  - You have been writing goals and objectives for students with severe cognitive disabilities who take the NDAA1 based on alternate achievement standards.
  - Make sure you are accessing grade level content.
  - See “Standards Based IEPs” power point on the NDAA website.



Use the NDAA1 Test Directions Manual with this power point:

- Read the manual
- Make sure you have all of the materials you need
- Print and copy the data sheets
- Use the Teacher Checklist
- Read highlighted test security and confidentiality requirements for ND



# Before you start:

- Double-check the IEP
  - Make sure you are giving the assessment that is documented in the student's current IEP
  - For all subjects



# Start with a file folder:

- It will be helpful for you to start a **file-folder** for each student to keep all of the printed material together.

Then:

- Print the **NDAA1 Test Directions Manual (TDM)**
- Print off the **“Checklist” TDM p. 22** - one per student.
- Print the **“Data Chart for NDAA 1” from web**- make additional copies (Each sheet provides for data collection for one standard).
  - For grades 3, 5, 6, & 7 you will need 8 copies.
  - For grades 4, 8, & 11 you will need 14 copies.
- Print the **“Parent Validation Survey” from web** – 1 copy per student.
- Access the **NDAA 1 “Activities Document”** for the grade the student is enrolled (It contains all \* subjects tested for each grade). You may print this document, but need to follow confidentiality rules for test materials. Note: \* science activities are in a separate document under grades 4, 8, and 11.



# To determine the activities that you will assess:

- Go to the “**NDAA 1- Grade Level Activities Document**” for the grade the student is enrolled. You will be assessing one activity for each standard.
  - Three for reading/language arts (RLA).
  - Five for math.
  - For students in grades 4, 8, and 11 there will be six additional science activities.
- You will be choosing one activity per standard, with the exception of the “**Prescribed Anchor Items**”, which are required.
- There will be a “**Prescribed Anchor Item**” for RLA Standard 2 and math Standard 1 for each grade. An anchor item for grades 4, 8, and 11 have been added this year.
- These “**Prescribed Anchor Items**” must be given as they are provided. These are the only items you will not choose.



# Prescribed Anchor Items:

- Prescribed Anchor Items are the same anchor items that were used in the past.
- What has changed is that you are now provided the directions, steps, and materials needed to carry out the item in a “prescribed” fashion.
- The purpose of the Prescribed Anchor Items:
  - To provide consistency
  - Fidelity of implementation
  - Improved reliability



# The Data Chart for the NDAA 1

- Provides a standardized chart for you to collect data (so you do not need to come up with your own).
- It is an exact replica of the chart you will fill in online, so the transfer of information should be more seamless.
- It also provides a copy of the NDAA 1 which you can use to show the parent and assist in filling out the Parent Validation Survey.
- Finally, it provides a copy of the NDAA 1 to be placed in the student's file.



## Prescribed Anchor Items:

- Follow the directions for these anchor items.
- Carry out the activities as directed.
- Document the results on the NDAA1 Data Sheet for that standard.



# Data Chart for NDAA 1:

- Begin by filling in the information that you can on the activities you have chosen.
- Once you have filled in the activity information, you can begin to gather any additional items you will need to carry out the assessment.



# Checklist continued...

- **Begin the assessment and collect data on the “Data Chart for NDAA 1”.** You will have approximately six “school weeks” in which to complete this assessment.
  - Start date: November 16, 2009
  - End date: January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- This is the data that you will input into the web format at the end of the test and the data you will share with the parent to complete the Parent Validation Survey.
- See the Sample Data Chart for specifics on data collection and secondary indicators (TDM p.18).



## Science Prescribed Anchor Items:

- Important Note: you **do not** need to collect information on secondary indicators for the science prescribed anchor items.
- However, you **do** have to collect information on the secondary indicators for all other science items, and the math and reading items and anchor items.



# Review:

1. Go to the grade level activity documents and determine the activities the students will be tested on for reading/language arts; math; and (if the student is in grade 4, 8, or 11) science.
2. Copy the Data Chart (one for each standard tested): this will serve as your data collection tool, your documentation to share with the parent, and what you will file in the student's school file once you have transferred this information to the online NDAA1 test site.



## Next:

- Gather any materials you will need to carry out the assessment.
- Copy the anchor item materials and follow the directions for administering the anchor items. (Remember-you do not have to collect information on secondary indicators **for science only**).
- You will be collecting data on four separate trials for each activity.
- You can schedule these activities however you choose within the testing window time-frame.
- For example: four days in a row, once a week for four weeks, twice a week for two weeks, etc.



# Keep in mind:

- Testing should be done when the student typically performs the best in the school day: (Consider)
  - More alert in the morning?
  - More tired in the afternoon?
  - Tired after lunch?
  - More alert at the end of the day?
  - Behavior problems more likely in the afternoon?
  - Showing signs of illness?
  - RX that causes drowsiness at a certain time of day?
  - Is too “wired” to concentrate after PE or music?
- Distractions should be avoided



# Teacher Validation Questions:

- There are two questions at the end of each NDAA1 Data Charts for you (the teacher) to answer.
- These are like the Parent Validation questions and are for the purpose of verifying “typical behavior” on these types of activities as seen from the teacher’s viewpoint as well as the parent’s standpoint.
- These items **are not** included in the score for the student (so you do not need to worry about your opinion affecting the student’s score).



When you have collected all of the data and you are ready to submit the final NDAA 1, go to:

[www.datadrivenenterprises.com/ndaa](http://www.datadrivenenterprises.com/ndaa)

- Make sure you are logged into the system, **as a teacher**, via your local Unit Director of Special Education (he/she will provide you with login information and password)  
If not, do that now.
- Have you entered all of the students who will be taking an NDAA 1 on your caseload?  
If not, do that now. Follow the **“NDAA Online Teacher Directions”**
- Enter the NDAA 1 Assessment information online from your **NDAA 1 Data Charts** by following the directions in the program. If you encounter any technical problems- contact **Emily** at 303-255-5607 or [EmilyS@datadrivenenterprises.com](mailto:EmilyS@datadrivenenterprises.com)
- *For those of you who contacted Amy in the past, . . . she moved to Alaska!*



# Parent Validation Survey:

- *The **Parent Validation Survey** is done for the purpose of verifying results and behaviors as seen from another familiar perspective, the parent.*
- Review the completed **"Data Chart for the NDAA 1"** information with the parent and fill in the **Parent Validation Survey** with the parent.
- This can be done at any time after the data has been collected. Once you have completed this Survey, place a **copy** in the student's file and mail the **original** to the NDDPI at the following address:
  - Attention Heidi
  - Division of Standards and Achievement
  - ND Dept. of Public Instruction-Dept. 201
  - 600 East Boulevard Avenue
  - Bismarck, ND 58505
- by this date: **January 29, 2010**



# Give us your input...

- When you have submitted all of your ND Alternate Assessments, please complete the **"NDAA 1 Teacher Feedback Online Survey"**.
- This should be completed no later than **January 29, 2010**.
- Your input is very important to us. Thank you



# Contacts:

- If you have any questions about content or assessment requirements please contact Doreen Strode at 701-591-0232 or email her at :

[dstrode@nd.gov](mailto:dstrode@nd.gov)

- If you have any questions about technical issues with the online computer program please contact Emily at 303-255-5607 (Mountain Time Zone) or email her at:

[EmilyS@datadrivenenterprises.com](mailto:EmilyS@datadrivenenterprises.com)

