

8/27/09

Science Testing During the 2009 -2010 School Year

Hi All,

Just a quick update on testing in science to clear up any confusion about science testing and NECAP. Maine has joined the NECAP states for testing in reading, writing, and mathematics. We have NOT joined the NECAP testing for Science at this time.

During the 2009-2010 school year Science MEA assessment at grades 5 and 8 will be administered between May 10 and May 21, 2010. The science portion of the MHSA (Maine High School Assessment) will be administered during the first two weeks of April. These assessments will include multiple choice and constructed responses at all grade levels.

As we all know, our state test is aligned to the Maine Learning Results (Standards D and E). This will continue to be the case for the foreseeable future. The federal government requires that the states report scores in science. Unless that expectation changes we will continue to test student achievement of the accountability standards in science test at elementary, middle and high school.

The national work in science on core standards will lead to a reexamination of our state standards. The current projection is that the science core standards work will be completed within two years.

More information about the tests and released items from the spring 2009 administration can be found at <http://maine.gov/education/lsalt/index.htm>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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