NAEP

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

2013

NAEP in Your Private School

What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), first administered in 1969, is the largest nationally representative assessment of what our nation's public and private school students know and can do in core subjects. It is considered the gold standard of assessments because of its high technical quality. The schools and students selected to take the assessment represent the diversity of our nation's student population.

The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card. NAEP reports on student achievement nationally. Individual school and student names or scores are never identified.

- NAEP 2013 will include assessments in mathematics and reading at grades 4, 8, and 12, and a computer-based technology and engineering literacy pilot at grade 8.
- NAEP 2013 results are scheduled to be reported for two groups of private schools: Catholic and other private schools.

Why assess private schools?

To obtain a complete picture of the academic progress of the nation's students, it is vital that all selected students participate in NAEP. Private schools represent about 25 percent of schools in the nation and educate approximately 9 percent of the nation's students.

Private school data make an important contribution to the picture of education in the United States and to future policy decisions. NAEP has consistently demonstrated how the performance of students in private schools compares positively to the performance of students in public schools and to the rest of the nation.

Why participate in NAEP?

Schools that participate in NAEP are contributing to the greater educational cause. Students who participate provide a valuable community service and enable The Nation's Report Card to provide a more inclusive picture of what our nation's students know and can do in key subject areas.

NAEP also has the support of numerous private school organizations, including the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE), the umbrella organization for many private school groups.

> "Private schools have participated in NAEP for decades, and the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) supports NAEP and encourages your participation."
>
> *– Joe McTighe, Executive Director, CAPE*

The NAEP 2013 program

From January 28 to March 8, 2013, NAEP will be administered by trained NAEP staff. Although there are three subjects being assessed in 2013, individual students will be assessed in only one subject. Most students will spend approximately 90 minutes completing the mathematics or reading assessment, as well as the student questionnaire, which provides contextual information, such as the amount of reading students do and what types of classes they take. A small number of schools and students may participate in the computer-based technology and engineering literacy pilot, which will take approximately 120 minutes.

Additional information about NAEP

For general information, including past reports and sample NAEP assessment questions, visit http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard

For more information on private school participation in NAEP, visit http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/nonpublicschools.asp

The school principal and the grade 4 and 8 teachers of the subjects being assessed will also be asked to complete a questionnaire. NAEP collects information from schools and teachers to provide a more complete understanding of the results. Topics such as classroom experience, teacher training, and school policies can be important information for education stakeholders who need to gain a better picture of student performance.

What are the responsibilities of the NAEP staff?

NAEP representatives work directly with schools and are responsible for

- Confirming the assessment date with the school
- Providing schools with instructions for preparing a list of eligible students in order to draw a random sample for participation in the assessment
- Providing schools with information about notifying parents of selected students
- Sending a preassessment packet of information to the school coordinator
- Visiting the school coordinator shortly after the packet is received to finalize assessment arrangements
- Bringing all assessment materials to the school on the scheduled day
- Conducting the assessments
- Responding to questions from the school throughout the assessment period

What are the responsibilities of the principal and school coordinator?

The principal is responsible for

- Including the NAEP assessment date on the school calendar
- Designating a school coordinator to work with NAEP staff and to prepare for the assessment
- Informing school staff about NAEP and why participation is critically important

The school coordinator is responsible for

- Confirming that the suggested assessment date works with the school calendar
- Securing space for the assessment to take place
- Working with the NAEP staff to provide a list of eligible students in order to draw a random sample for participation in the assessment (student names will always be kept confidential)
- Informing parents
- Receiving the preassessment packet and beginning final preparations for the assessment
- Meeting with NAEP staff during the scheduled preassessment visit to discuss the final details of the assessment
- Ensuring that students attend the session on the assessment date

35030.0412.8533421310