

Hearings Objectives and Procedures

The National Assessment Governing Board seeks participation in the hearings from a wide spectrum of individuals and organizations to receive recommendations regarding the reading and mathematics specifications for the Voluntary National Tests at grade 4 in reading and grade 8 in mathematics. The schedule of speakers shall be such as to provide a broad spectrum of viewpoints and interests, while being contained to a practical amount of time. The goal of the hearings is to provide a medium for maximum input and guidance from the public to include teachers, principals, school board members, curriculum specialists, local school administrators, parents, and concerned citizens.

The Governing Board will provide a brief background to the hearings, with the majority of the time being devoted to presentations by scheduled speakers. To assist in appropriately scheduling speakers, testimony should include the following information:

- (1) Name, address, and telephone number of each person to appear.
- (2) Affiliation (if any).
- (3) A brief statement of the issues and/or concerns that will be addressed.
- (4) Whether a written statement will be submitted for the record.

Individuals who do not register in advance will be permitted to register and speak at the meeting in order of registration, if time permits. Speakers should plan to limit their total remarks to no more than five (5) minutes.

While it is anticipated that all persons desiring to do so will have an opportunity to speak, time limits may not allow this to occur. The Governing Board will make the final determination on the selection and scheduling of speakers.

However, all written statements presented at the hearings will be accepted and incorporated into the public record. Written statements received after January 31, 1998 will be accepted; however, inclusion in the public record cannot be guaranteed. Governing Board members will preside at each of the hearings. The proceedings will be audiotaped. On request, the hearings will be signed for the hearing-impaired, and a bilingual speaker (Spanish-English) can be made available on site.

Additional Information

Additional information on the Voluntary National Tests can be obtained at by contacting Mary Crovo, National Assessment Governing Board, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 825,

Washington, DC 20002-4233, Telephone: 202-357-6938 or NAGB's web site at www.nagb.org.

Steps After Hearing

The Governing Board will review and analyze all comments and opinions received in response to this announcement. Results of the testimony will be used by the National Assessment Governing Board to determine the specifications for the Voluntary National Tests in reading and mathematics. The Board plans to take action on the specifications in March 1998. A record of all the proceedings will be kept at the National Assessment Governing Board offices, 800 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 825, Washington, DC 20002, and will be available for public inspection.

Roy Truby,

Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; Education.

ACTION: Notice of Teleconference meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming teleconference meeting of Subject Area Committees 1 and Subject Area Committee #2 of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: January 8, and 9, 1998.

TIME: January 8, Subject Area Committee #1, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, (open); January 9, Subject Area Committee #2, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., (open).

LOCATION: National Assessment Governing Board, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20002-4233, Telephone: (202) 357-6938.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Ann Wilmer, Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20002-4233, Telephone: (202) 357-6938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under section 412 of the National Education Statistics Act of

1994 (Title IV of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994), (Pub. L. 103-382).

The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The Board is responsible for selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, identifying appropriate achievement goals for each grade and subject tested, and establishing standards and procedures for interstate and national comparisons. Under P.L. 105-78, the National Assessment Governing Board is granted exclusive authority over developing Voluntary National Tests pursuant to contract number RJ97153001 and is required to review within 90 days (i.e., by February 11, 1998) and modify the contract to the extent the Board determines necessary, if the contract cannot be modified to the extend the Board determines necessary, the contract shall be terminated, and a new contract negotiated.

On January 8 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, the Subject Area Committee #1 of the National Assessment Governing Board will hold a teleconference meeting to discuss Committee and staff Voluntary National Tests reviews for reading. On January 9 between the hours of 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. Subject Area Committee #2 will meet to discuss Committee and staff reviews of the Voluntary National Tests for math. Because these are teleconference meetings, facilities will be provided so the public will have access to the Committee's deliberations.

Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Roy Truby,

Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of General Counsel; Preparation of Report to Congress on Price-Anderson Act

AGENCY: Office of General Counsel, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of inquiry concerning preparation of report to Congress on the Price-Anderson Act.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (the "Department" or "DOE") is