


State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Peter McWalters
Commissioner

March 16, 2009

TO: District Testing Coordinators, Principals of Elementary, Middle, and High Schools, and Directors of Charter Schools

FROM: Mary Ann Snider, Director 
Office of Instruction, Assessment and Accountability

SUBJECT: NECAP Science Assessment

Happy spring! This correspondence is to remind you of this May's NECAP Science Assessment and the schedule of workshops to prepare you for this effort.

The science test will be administered at grades 4, 8, and 11. All schools are required to participate in the assessments, which are scheduled between May 11th and May 28th. Test materials will be delivered to your school on April 27th and picked-up after testing on May 29th. The test will include three sessions—the first two are a written component similar to other NECAP tests, and the third is a performance assessment (the Inquiry Task), which is "hands-on" at grade 4. A series of test administration workshops have been scheduled to help prepare district and school test coordinators for the test. They are scheduled for the following dates and times:

- April 20th at the Marriott in Providence (9:00–11:30 a.m. & 1:00–3:30 p.m.)
- April 21st at the Radisson in Warwick (9:00–11:30 a.m. & 1:00–3:30 p.m.)

You may register for a workshop by logging on to the following website:

<http://iregister.measuredprogress.org>. Select "New England Common Assessment Program" from the drop-down menu and click "Enter". Next, select the link for the workshop you want to register for, and follow the online directions. On the workshop days themselves, on-site sign-in will begin at 8:30 and 12:30, respectively.

I encourage you to attend these workshops. We have also posted practice tests, released item documents, and other information about the NECAP Science assessment on our website (<http://www.ride.ri.gov/Assessment/default.aspx>); just click on the NECAP link, then click on the Science link. As always, please don't hesitate to call me (401-222-8492) if you have any questions.

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