NECAP Science: 2008 Test Administrator Questionnaire

The New England Common Assessment Program continues to benefit from input provided by educators, both in the form of advisory committees and broader based surveys such as this.

Instructions: Please mark your answers to the questions below on the bottom half one of the scannable answer sheets you received in your administrative materials box.

1. In which state is your school?
   a. New Hampshire
   b. Rhode Island
   c. Vermont

2. Which best describes your position within the school?
   a. general education teacher (Science is part of my teaching responsibilities.)
   b. science teacher
   c. science supervisor or coach
   d. special education teacher
   e. other

3. Which best describes the group to whom you administered the test?
   a. individual administration
   b. small group
   c. whole class
   d. multiple classes
   e. other

4. Which best describes your relationship with the students to whom you administered the test?
   a. I teach or taught them in science class.
   b. I teach or taught them in some other class this year (not science).
   c. I was assigned these students for testing only.

5. How were you prepared to administer the science test?
   a. I attended a test administration workshop offered in my state.
   b. I attended a test administration meeting offered by my school.
   c. I read the Test Administrator Manual before testing began.
   d. A combination of the options above.
   e. I did not receive training prior to administering the test.

6. How clear and comprehensive was the Test Administrator Manual?
   a. extremely clear and comprehensive
   b. very clear and comprehensive
   c. fairly clear and comprehensive
   d. not very clear and comprehensive

7. How long did it take most of your students to answer the questions on Sessions 1 & 2?
   a. under 45 minutes per session
   b. between 45 and 60 minutes per session
   c. between 60 and 90 minutes per session
   d. over 90 minutes per session (with an extended time accommodation)

8. Which phrase describes your students’ level of comfort with the science test?
   a. Students appeared engaged and comfortable with the material on the science test.
   b. Students appeared to be struggling with the material on the science test.
   c. Students appeared to be struggling only with the Inquiry Task portion of the science test.
9. To what extent did students use calculators during the test?
   a. Almost all students used a calculator at some point during the test.
   b. Some students used a calculator at some point during the test.
   c. Few students used a calculator at some point during the test.
   d. No students used a calculator during the test.
   e. Calculators were not permitted during the test.

10. (Grades 8 & 11) Was the reference sheet helpful to students?
    a. Yes, most students appeared to use it.
    b. Yes, but it was used by few students.
    c. No, students did not understand how to use the reference sheet.
    d. No, students did not appear to need the reference sheet.

11. Were the directions for the Inquiry Task clear to students?
    a. The directions were clear to most students.
    b. The directions were clear to some students.
    c. The directions were clear to few students.

12. (Grades 4 & 8) How long did it take you to set up materials for the Inquiry Task?
    a. under 10 minutes
    b. between 10 minutes and 20 minutes
    c. over 20 minutes
    d. I did not set up materials for the Inquiry Task.

13. (Grades 4 & 8) How were students grouped for the Inquiry Task?
    a. I used existing science groupings.
    b. I created groupings specifically for this test.
    c. I let the students choose their partner(s).
    d. I used a combination of the options above.
    e. other

14. (Grades 4 & 8) How long did it take most of your students to complete the collaborative portion of the Inquiry Task?
    a. under 30 minutes
    b. about 30 minutes
    c. over 30 minutes

15. (Grades 4 & 8) How long did it take most of your students to answer the questions on the Inquiry Task?
    a. under 30 minutes
    b. approximately 30 minutes
    c. between 30 minutes and 45 minutes
    d. over 45 minutes (with an extended time accommodation)

16. (Grade 11) How long did it take most of your students to answer the questions on the Inquiry Task?
    a. under 30 minutes
    b. approximately 30 minutes
    c. between 30 minutes and 60 minutes
    d. over 60 minutes (with an extended time accommodation)

If you have recommendations on how to improve the administration of the Inquiry Task portion of the science test in your school, please send your comments to inquirycomments@measuredprogress.org prior to June 1st.