Reporting and Dissemination Committee

March 1, 2021
10:00 am – 12:15 pm
The Internet

AGENDA

10:00 – 10:45 am	**Early Preview of 2019 NAEP Science Results (CLOSED)** *Grady Wilburn, National Center for Education Statistics*	
10:45 – 10:50 am	***Break / Transition to Open Session***	
10:50 – 11:15 am	**Release Plan for 2019 NAEP Science Results: Discussion and ACTION** *Tonya Matthews, Chair* *Laura LoGerfo, Assistant Director for Reporting and Analysis*	*Attachment A*
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	**Understanding Socioeconomic Status and NAEP** *Martin West, Vice Chair, Moderator* *William Ward, National Center for Education Statistics* *Markus Broer, American Institutes for Research* *Eric Hanushek, Paul and Jean Hanna Senior Fellow, The Hoover Institution, Stanford University* *Thomas Kane, Walter H. Gale Professor of Education and Economics at the Harvard Graduate School of Education*	

DRAFT RELEASE PLAN FOR THE NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP)

The Nation's Report Card: 2019 Science

The national results of the 2019 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Science assessment for grades 4 and 8 will be released to the public in early May 2021. Typically, results from these assessments are released a year after administration, however, the shift to digital-based assessment required additional quality control processes and statistical checks. The release will be held virtually to comply with public health norms in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

The event will be webcast live for a national audience and last approximately 65-70 minutes. The event's structure deviates from the traditional design. The upcoming event will follow a more innovative approach, as befitting the innovative nature of the NAEP Science assessment. The focus will be on the three subscales of the Science assessment, through which intriguing findings emerge. The assessment comprises a physical sciences subscale (e.g., physics and chemistry), a life sciences subscale (e.g., biology), and an earth and space sciences subscale. The findings for these subscales will be presented throughout the event, rather than in one block to sustain interest and to shine a spotlight on the depth of results available, not just the national breadth.

OVERVIEW

The event will begin with a welcome by the Governing Board chair, followed by an introduction by Board member Christine Cunningham, a professor of education and engineering, who works to make engineering and science more relevant and accessible, especially for populations underrepresented and underserved in engineering and science. Then focus will shift to data presentations by both the Commissioner and Associate Commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

The Commissioner will share recent science data from The International Math and Science Study (TIMSS). After which, the Associate Commissioner will release and present the 2019 NAEP Science results for the nation's fourth-, eighth-, and twelfth-

grade students, providing an overview of the national data and illuminating national trends. Combined, this will take approximately 20 minutes.

Once Carr completes the overview of the national data and trends, a video produced by the Governing Board will introduce one of the three Science assessment subscales by showing how students engage in the study of life sciences in both extraordinary and ordinary ways. These ways will connect to elements seen in the NAEP Science assessment framework. For example, when schools closed in March 2020, parents found videos online to instruct their children on proper hand-washing techniques to combat COVID-19, to lead their children through science experiments with baking soda, and to make slime. Students participated in backyard bio blitzes while others invented innovative ways to address the Flint water crisis or discovered a novel small molecule that could lead to a cure for COVID-19. After the video plays, Associate Commissioner Carr will share highlights of results from the life sciences subscale of the 2019 NAEP Science assessment. This process will repeat for the remaining two subscales.

At the conclusion of data highlights from the third subscale, Associate Commissioner Carr will provide summary slides, after which a question-and-answer session will proceed. As with the release for the 2019 NAEP Reading and Mathematics results, grade 12, Governing Board staff will collaborate with NCES staff to select, direct, and ask the questions.

DATE AND LOCATION

The release event will occur in early May via virtual platform. The Chair of the Reporting and Dissemination Committee will set the release date, in accordance with Governing Board policy, in collaboration with the National Center for Education Statistics, and following Committee acceptance of the final report card.

ACTIVITIES BEFORE THE RELEASE

In the weeks before the release event, the Governing Board will launch a social media campaign to build interest in the release, with special focus on stakeholders involved in science, tagging influencers in this field and former Board members prominent in science education. The Board's website will dedicate a webpage to release events.

Shortly before the release, NCES will host a call for members of the media, during which NCES will present highlights and answer questions. NCES will oversee an embargoed website with results available to stakeholders approved for access by NCES, including Congressional staff and media. The goal of these activities is to

provide a comprehensive overview of the findings, to deepen understanding of the results, and to help ensure accurate reporting to the public.

REPORT RELEASE

The Commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics will release the report card on the NAEP website—at 12:01am the day of the release event. The Governing Board press release, the full and abridged versions of the 2019 NAEP Science Assessment Frameworks, and related materials will be posted on the Board's web site. The site will feature links to social networking sites and multimedia material related to the event.

CENTRAL MESSAGES

Activities before and after the release, as well as the release itself, will promote several messages. First, data from NAEP illuminate critical gaps in students' knowledge and skills within the three science domains assessed by NAEP. By focusing on what content is challenging in these domains and for which students, actions to bolster student knowledge and skills may be more directed and effective. Second, science knowledge and skills do not dwell only among the elite echelons of academia and famous science fairs; everyone can and should participate in the study and practice of science. Science education allows students to understand the world in which they live and learn to apply scientific principles to their lives. Third, international assessments offer helpful information and context to interpret the NAEP results.

ACTIVITIES AFTER THE RELEASE

The Governing Board's communications contractor will work with Board staff to coordinate additional post-release communications efforts to target communities and audiences. The subscale videos will be publicized on social media. The goal of these activities is to extend the life of the results and provide value and relevance to stakeholders.